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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. XVI.]

MONTREAL, JUNE 1, 1850.

No. 11.

TEMPTATION.

BY T. S. ARTHUR.

The maxim of "all things to all men," was not to be found in Mr. Fielding's rules of conduct. The moral pendulum of his mind swung to the other extreme. "I will do what is right for myself; and what is right for me cannot be wrong to others."

This was his doctrine; and, properly understood, it is the true doctrine. But most persons interpret religious and moral precepts in a way to favor their own inclinations. In fact, all of us do this to a certain extent.

On the subject of drinking spirituous liquors, the mind of Mr. Fielding was clear. He was satisfied that the introduction of alcohol into the human stomach was injurious. But, in regard to wine, he differed from the great body of temperance advocates. Wine, he said, was, like bread, a good thing; and it was not only lawful, but right to use it. He assumed that wine was not evil, from the fact that it was ordered to be used in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, that most holy of all acts of worship. For so holy a purpose, he argued, the Divine Being would not have selected any earthly thing that was not good in itself.

"Why were the elements of bread and wine chosen for so sacred a ceremony?" he asked, while in debate on this subject with a warm opponent of his peculiar belief.

"I don't know that I can answer your question," was replied.

"I will tell you," said Mr. Fielding, speaking with some enthusiasm. "All things in nature correspond to and represent spiritual things, because therein lies their origin. There is nothing in the material world which is not the product of a spiritual cause. Bread and wine, therefore, are the fixed ultimates of something spiritual; and the fact that they have been selected for use in one of the sacred mysteries of the church shows that they correspond to something pure and excellent. In the Holy Supper we find an image of regeneration, which is effected by the life of truth and the appropriation of goodness from Heaven. The natural reception of bread and wine, in the ordinance, corresponds, therefore, to the spiritual reception of goodness and truth; and I argue, from this use of these elements, that bread corresponds to good and wine to truth. In other words, that the Divine goodness, in descending through the heavens and flowing down to the lowest natural and fixed plain, subsides in bread, as that substance which, in the highest degree, nourishes the natural, as goodness nourishes the spiritual body; and that

the Divine truth in like manner finds its lowest ultimatum in wine."

"Then why?" asked the other, "does wine produce intoxication?"

"Pure wine will not do so, unless taken in immoderate quantities."

"Is there any pure wine to be obtained?"

"But little, I must acknowledge."

"Yet a vitiated appetite even pure wine will inflame and lead inevitably to excess."

"And so, to an inflamed eye, will the light of heaven come with a destructive, rather than a salutary influence. But, surely, for this reason, you would not exclude the light from all. Truth, to which wine corresponds, when received into the mind of an evil man, is changed into what is false, and injures rather than benefits. Yet not for this would you shut out the rays of truth and leave the world in mental darkness."

"Admit, for the sake of argument, what you say; and yet the general use of wine, even if it be pure, is to be condemned on the same principle that you would condemn the admission of strong light into the room of a man who was suffering from a diseased eye."

"Why so?"

"Because a tendency to excessive drinking has become hereditary in the community. Until this be overcome, even your pure wine cannot be taken without danger."

"I rather doubt that. Wine perfectly pure will not, I am inclined to believe, inflame the appetite."

"I thought, just now, that you made a different admission."

"If so, it was without proper reflection. Nine tenths of the stuff called wine is a decoction of drugs, and poisons the stomach. This is the reason why wine drinking is just as bad as brandy drinking, and sometimes worse; for brandy might almost be called harmless when compared with a great deal of the stuff that is sold under the name of wine."

"I should be afraid to put a glass of the purest wine that ever was made to the lips of a man who had once been in the habit of intoxication."

"I would not hesitate," said Mr. Fielding.

"You would not?"

"No. Every man, to be a true man, must be in rational freedom; and no one is in such freedom who cannot drink a glass of pure wine without being led astray."

"Yet many must inevitably be led astray under such a system of license."

"As I said before, I doubt this. But even if it is so, I am not responsible. Wine is a good gift and I am not the one to withhold it as an evil thing. With those who abuse it must lie the responsibility. As well might you ask to have the light of heaven shut out."

"And so I would in particular cases of disease, such as you have mentioned."

"I cannot know who are or who are not afflicted with either an hereditary or acquired love of intoxicating drinks, and, therefore, I can attempt no discriminations. I know wine to be a good thing, and, therefore, I will continue to use it and also set it before my friends. If any abuse the natural blessing, with them must rest the consequences. I will act right as far as I am concerned. If others act wrong, they are alone to blame."

Finding, after repeated attempts to do so, that he could make no impression on the mind of Mr. Fielding, the individual with whom he was conversing changed the subject.

In his views Mr. Fielding was perfectly sincere. He was a man of great self-control, integrity of purpose, and independent feeling. He was proud, too, in his individuality, and this led him to act with less reference to his conduct as affecting those around him than might otherwise have been the case. His cellar was stocked with the best of wine, as pure as it was in his power to obtain. This was used habitually in his family and invariably set before his friends.

Mr. Fielding had an only daughter, who was a favorite with all who knew her. Her face had a gentle beauty, that, once seen, impressed itself upon the mind and lived there as an image of purity and loveliness. Her name was Rose. It so happened, about the time Rose attained her nineteenth year, that she met a young man named Forrester, the son of an old friend of her father's who lived in the West. In early life Mr. Forrester and Mr. Fielding had been almost inseparable, and, in the mind of the latter, the memory of his old friend had always been a green spot. They separated at twenty-five and had never met since.

"I saw a young man at Mrs. Webster's," said Rose to her father, after her meeting with Forrester, "who says that his father and you were once intimate friends?"

"Did you? What is his name?"

"Mr. Forrester."

"Forrester!" exclaimed Mr. Fielding, taken by surprise. "Forrester! Can it be possible. Yes, my earliest and most intimate friend was named Forrester. And so his son is in the city! What is he doing here?"

But Rose could not answer this last question.

Mr. Fielding had a great many enquiries to make as to the young man's age, appearance, character and manners, to all of which his daughter was competent to give little more than half satisfactory replies. At the earliest convenient moment, he ascertained where Forrester was to be found, and called upon him. He found him a young man of education, intelligence, agreeable manners, and, as far as a first interview would enable him to judge, of good principles. His father had been dead for some years, and he conveyed to Mr. Fielding his first knowledge of that fact.

In accordance with a pressing invitation, Forrester returned the call of his father's old friend. It so happened, that Mr. Fielding was not at home, but his daughter received his visit, which, to her, as she had met him previously and he was gentlemanly and agreeable, proved a pleasant one. Even before knowing who he was, on first meeting him, her mind had taken a prepossession in his favor, and on his part the feeling was reciprocal.

After chatting freely and pleasantly for half an hour, Forrester made a move as if he were about to retire, when Rose said, rising,

"Wait a few moments," and left the room.

She soon returned with a small waiter in her hand, upon which was wine and glasses. She did not observe the sud-

den change that went over the young man's face as she entered. Even if she had done so, she would not have comprehended its meaning.

"Will you have a glass of wine?" said she, with a smiling invitation, as she approached Forrester.

For a moment the young man paused, and, to Rose, appeared as if he were about to decline the proffered refreshment, but the indecision was only for an instant.

"If I were an anchorite, I could not refuse it from your hands," said he, as he took the decanter and filled both the glasses that were on the waiter.

"And, now, to your good health and that of your excellent father," he added, as he lifted a glass and raised it to his lips.

"Excellent!" he remarked, on sipping a portion of the generous liquor. "I have never tasted a better wine."

"My father is choice in his selection of wine," was the young girl's simple reply.

Forrester remained chatting with increased freedom for another half hour, in which time he filled his glass twice. He then went away, promising to call again, and expressing the hope that he would be more fortunate in finding Mr. Fielding at home.

The more intimate association with the young man, which this visit afforded, had the effect of giving to the mind of Rose a very favorable impression. To say that she was merely pleased with him would not convey an idea of her true feelings; something about him touched her more deeply, and Forrester was no less pleased with the lovely young girl.

From that time the heart of Rose beat with a new impulse, and a thought of the young man was sufficient to awaken a ripple on the surface of her feelings. She felt towards him as she had never felt towards any man before.

A week elapsed and Forrester did not repeat his visits. Rose had expected him within that time; for, not having found her father at home, she inferred that he would take an early opportunity to call again.

"I have rather unpleasant news," said Mr. Fielding to his daughter about this time. He looked serious as he spoke.

"What is it?" enquired Rose, her own face reflecting that of her father.

"I met young Forrester in the street to-day, so much intoxicated that he did not know me."

The face of Rose grew instantly pale; she made an effort to speak, but her lips quivered so that she suppressed the words that were upon them.

"Oh dear!" added Mr. Fielding, "it is sad to see a man, just in the freshness of his early spring-time, thus abandoning himself to a vice that ruins both soul and body. To think that the son of my old friend should be the victim of so degrading an appetite!"

Peace, which had nestled since childhood in the heart of the fair young girl, spread its wings and departed. A little while afterwards she was alone in her own chamber weeping. If the simple announcement of the fact that Forrester was seen intoxicated affected her so deeply, how much more painful was the conviction, soon after forced upon her, that she had caused his fall.

Rose was on a visit to the lady at whose house she had met the young man a few days subsequently, when the latter said,

"You remember Mr. Forrester, who was here on the evening I had company? I have sad news to tell you about him. It appears from what my husband has been able to learn, that his father was for a great many years before his death in habits of intemperance. And that the son derived from his father a natural fondness for stimulating drinks, which showed itself at a very early age. Before he attained his twentieth year he was, to use plain but true language, a drunkard. The death of old Mr. Forrester, which took place

under sad and revolting circumstances, occasioned as it was by drinking, startled his son and made on him so strong an impression, that he solemnly vowed to himself never again to taste even wine. He was led to this entire abstinence from all exhilarating beverage at so early an age, from a conviction forced upon him by the reasoning of friends, who satisfied his mind that the habit of drinking to excess, which his father had indulged, was transmitted to him in an undue fondness for the same indulgence, and that he could not taste even wine without having his appetite so inflamed as to be in great danger. For years he kept faith with himself in this matter. Let him be where he would and with whom he would, he steadily declined tasting any stimulating drink. Alas! that he should have been tempted from the right way by one of our own sex. It is said, that he visited a short time since a young lady in this city, who offered him a glass of wine. In a moment of weakness, he took the cup from her hand, drank—and fell! I would not be that young lady for the world! What a fearful responsibility has she brought upon herself!

It was impossible for Rose, on hearing this, to conceal her emotions; and to the lady's surprise, for she did not know her to be the person to whom she made allusion, she lost the entire control of her feelings, and hiding her face with her hands, yielded to a passionate gush of tears. What was said could not be softened, and the lady made no attempt to do so. She understood, without explanation, that it was Rose who had tempted Forrester and caused him to fall.

The young girl, as soon as she could gain sufficient control over her feelings, started for home. Few sadder beings could have been found in the whole city. But yesterday, she was a light-hearted, happy young creature, on whose spirit but few clouds had ever rested, and they not dense enough to shut out entirely the warm sunshine. Now, she was unutterably wretched. As she hurried along the street, on her way to her father's house, she suddenly encountered Forrester. Alas! how was he changed! His eyes were red, his face distorted from its former calm, gentlemanly, intelligent expression, and in his whole appearance and manner there was an air of personal abandonment. He did not see her. How like a daguerreotype impression was the form of the young man, as he thus passed before her, instantly fixed upon her memory! At home, in the solitude of her chamber, she looked at the painful image, while a voice, with rebuking tones, uttered in her ears, "This is your work!"

"And mine must be the work of restoration," said she, with a sudden energy of manner, while a flush of enthusiasm went over her face.

The idea, intimated by these words of the maiden, came like a dictate to her mind; and she felt, almost instantly, inspired with a solemn purpose.

"Yes, yes," she murmured, while her tears ceased to flow, "mine must be the work of restoration."

While the enthusiasm of this first state remained, Rose felt that the work she contemplated would be of easy performance. But as she thought longer and longer, and came, more realizingly, into the perception of what she purposed doing, her native delicacy of feeling shrunk, like the leaf of a sensitive plant, from the exposure any attempt to approach the young man must subject her. The imputation of motives by others, and the certainty of being misunderstood and misrepresented, came next to throw a chill over her generous spirit and to occasion a long and severe contest in her mind. But her resolution, spontaneous and impulsive as it was, became permanent, and in a heroic and self-sacrificing spirit for one so young, in the secrecy of her own heart she pondered the course of action best for her to adopt so as to ensure the most certain result. Her first idea was, to write to Forrester in the plainest and frankest manner, but the fear that this might fail in effecting what she desired, caused her to turn from it, and with a sense of shrinking contemplate a perso-

nal approach to the young man. The more closely she looked at the subject, the more painful became her sense of reluctance. But, inspired by a feeling of duty, she bravely kept by her resolve to do whatever was in her power for the young man's restoration.

The thought of confiding to her father what she contemplated doing presented itself to the mind of Rose, but, satisfied that he would not only object to any such course of action, but positively forbid her attempting to see or communicate with Forrester, she determined to keep her own secret.

As for the unhappy young man, on receiving from the hand of Rose the first glass of wine he had tasted for a long time, he felt his old appetite returning. And, on leaving her presence, so intense was the desire he felt for a stronger stimulant, that, with a kind of mad abandonment of his rational self-control, he went direct to a tavern and drank brandy and water until he was so much intoxicated as scarcely to be able to reach his boarding house. Daylight found him, on the next morning, in a state of mental anguish intolerable to be borne. He had fallen again, and fallen through temptation thrown in his way by a young, innocent and beautiful girl, who had already inspired him with a sentiment of affection, and, in falling, had debased himself in her eyes. To drown his wretchedness, in a spirit of self-abandonment, he put the cup again to his lips, and drank until reason left again her throne in his mind. And this was continued day after day, until nature was nearly exhausted.

A little over a week had gone by since the melancholy change in his habits, and there was a lucid interval in which reason once more strove for the mastery. On the night before he had come home late, so much intoxicated that the servants had to take him to his room; and, in the morning, he had felt too sick, both in body and mind, to leave his bed. He did not come down until about the middle of the afternoon, when he was perfectly sober, but wretched as a man could well be. Inclination prompted him to go out and drown the burning desire he felt in the maddening bowl, while reason and conscience held him back. The struggle had become severe, and appetite was about conquering, when he heard his name mentioned, in a woman's voice, at the street-door where the waiter had gone to answer the bell. Before he had decided whether to retire or not, a young lady entered the room.

"Miss Fielding!" he exclaimed in utter surprise, as the visitor drew aside her veil and showed a face on which was a deep impression of sadness.

"I have done you a great wrong," said Rose, in a trembling, hesitating voice, entering at once upon her mission; "and I come now, in the hope that I may be able, in some measure, to repair it."

She could say no more. Her feelings, wrought up to a high pitch of excitement, here gave way. Sinking upon a chair, she covered her face with her hands and sobbed violently.

The unhappy young man found himself in a strangely embarrassed position. For a little while, he was so confused that he was unable to comprehend the meaning of what was passing; but it soon became clear, and that even before the trembling maiden recovered her self-possession. Something of admiration for her conduct mingled with other emotions in his mind.

As the bewildering whirl, into which his feelings had been thrown, subsided, good resolutions formed themselves. Suddenly approaching the young girl, he took her hand and said in a low but earnest voice,

"Return to your home, Miss Fielding. Virtuous self-devotion like yours must not—shall not be exercised in vain. From this hour I stand where I stood before we met. An angel shall not tempt me again from my integrity."

"Enough!" said the young girl, rising, while she let her

veil again fall over her face. "May Heaven give you strength to hold fast by this good resolution! Pardon what I have done, and think of it only as an act prompted by an overpowering sense of duty."

Saying this, she glided from the young man's presence, and hurried back to her home, her heart fluttering like the heart of a frightened bird.

When Mr. Fielding became aware that Forrester had fallen in consequence of having tasted wine, presented by the hand of his daughter, he felt some misgivings in regard to his peculiar views and practice. His wine was very pure, and might be very good; but it had proved, to the morbid appetite of the son of his old friend, a maddening poison. Still more startled was he, when he learned what Rose had done; for he understood human nature well enough to know that such an act would produce a mutual interest. And he was not mistaken in this anticipation. In a very little while these two young persons were thrown together again. There was a slight embarrassment on both sides; but this soon passed off. They had thought of one another too much for either to feel indifference.

After this, Forrester ventured to repeat his visit to the house of Mr. Fielding. The father of Rose was at home, and received him with rather cold formality. But, as he had been, to a certain extent, a party to the fall of the young man, he could not treat him with repulsion. Of one thing, however, he was very careful, and that was not to order wine to be served, although this was in the face of a previous declaration that he would not refrain from doing so to his guests, even though one addicted to intemperance were present. He saw the consequences nearer, in a different light, and as likely to effect himself.

As Mr. Fielding had feared would be the case, so it proved. A mutual attachment sprung up between Forrester and his daughter, and when the young man asked for her hand, though he wished to refuse, yet he could not do so.

At the wedding, no entertainment was given; only a few friends were present, and strange to say, even to them wine was not served. Mr. Fielding would have set forth poison as quickly as wine. And why? Had he changed his views in regard to its utility? Not so much that, as he feared the production of evil results likely to effect himself and family. His principles were based rather upon a regard for himself than dependent on abstract appreciations of right and justice—and this was one fact that he had yet to learn. As it was, he was made to feel, almost in his own person, the evil of serving wine to any and every one, without regard to acquirement or hereditary predispositions to over-indulgence; and in the future, his practice was as different from what it had been as could well be conceived.

THE CADETS—REFORMATION.

The cause of temperance is agitated to a great extent at the present day. Men of all ranks and grades are engaged in it; but the efforts that are being made are mostly directed to the reformation of the drunkard, and leaves the sober youth to grow up drunkards as fast as they please. Now we say this is wrong, decidedly wrong. Do not understand us to promulgate the sentiment that getting those who are degraded, those who are ruined, and lost to all the finer feelings of humanity, to sign the pledge, and again making men of them is wrong.—No. No such thing. This is indeed a glorious work and worthy of the best energies of our noblest men. But there is another work to be done, even the work of restraining the rising generation from falling into the same way of those who have gone before; for inexperienced youth are liable to give way to the temptation that presents itself on every hand, and to follow the example of those with whom they have daily intercourse, however great the restrictions placed upon them, when under the eye of their parents.

This work the Cadets of Temperance seek to accomplish. It is well known that the youthful mind seeks companionship, and unless he is furnished with that which is good, he will naturally seek that of a contrary kind. Bad company communicates evils to the mind of youth, and "evil communications corrupt good manners."—What more eminently calculated to engage the mind of youth and save him from all the evils he is exposed to, than the Cadets of Temperance. There "Virtue, Love and Temperance" reigns. Their morality is deeply inculcated. There also, those seeds of good instruction, sown by the parent, receives nourishment and germinates with amazing rapidity. There, in short, is found all that is good, and all that is desirable to restrain the youthful mind, and fit it for a bright and glorious manhood, and prepare it for a never ending eternity. Parent, you hold the destiny of your children in your hands; see to it that your obligations to them are all met, and that you do your duty to them by securing them a place in the Cadets of Temperance.—*Central City Cadet.*

FORCE OF EXAMPLE.

If principles of sobriety are not taught by the mothers and fathers at the fireside, who can wonder if the child should be consigned to the cold earth, after a few short years of wretched and miserable existence, a besotted and despised drunkard? If the father indulges in the use of intoxicating drinks, and gives it to his friends and neighbours, and even to his little child, how can he expect those whose characters are to be moulded and fashioned by his example to be temperate and virtuous men? How can he reasonably expect those who pattern after him to abstain from what he uses himself and recommends to his friend. If a young man who is brought up under such influences is temperate, it is owing to no good instruction of those who have had the immediate control of his childhood. It is the good work of those more foreign to him by way of connexion. Fathers who would have temperate sons—who would have their sons live in such a manner as not to bring disgrace upon them, should so conduct themselves that they would not be under the necessity of preaching what they do not practise.—*Temperance Ensign.*

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SAINT JOHN TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the Society, which was held in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute on Thursday evening, the 28th Feb., was well attended, and proved one of the most interesting Temperance gatherings that has occurred for some time past. The President, Mr. N. S. Demill was at his post as usual, and opened the meeting with a short address, in which he justly claimed for this organization which then celebrated its 18th Anniversary, the merit of having laid the foundation of all the good that had been accomplished by the advocacy and practice of Temperance principles in this city—it is the stock of which the Sons of Temperance, the Cadets, &c., are the scions. The Temperance Choir having sung a pretty air, and the Rev. Mr. Elder addressed the Throne of Grace, the Secretary read a Report of the status, financial and otherwise, of the Society, by which it appears that there are 3956 names enrolled on its books, and that it is in funds to the extent of £36 6s. 2d. The Report having been read, adopted and ordered to be published, a call was made upon the Rev. Mr. Elder to address the meeting, to which he responded in a very able and argumentative speech, in which he contended that, considered in his relations to Society, man has duties and obligations to discharge which are incompatible with that freedom of restraint upon one's appetite and propensities, that right so often asserted by the Bacchanal, to do what he likes with his own. He owes more to society than he can ever repay; wife, family,

religion and morality have claims upon him which he cannot disregard with impunity.

REPORT.

Your committee further report, that notwithstanding the efficiency of the other Temperance bodies in effective operation in this City, we have recorded in our books one hundred and two additional members for the current year—and that the number of subscribers on the books of the Society is 3956.

Your Committee have not had time nor opportunity of collecting information as regards the progress of the Societies in the vicinity, but from general observation, the Committee are led to believe that they are progressing in this reformation with their usual zeal.

The revolution of time has again brought us to the period, when, in performance of our duty, it is necessary to report the proceedings of the past year. And your committee are gratified to state, that the labors of that zealous, powerful and efficient body—the “Sons of Temperance,” with their auxiliary the Cadets—have in a great measure relieved us from the necessity of making up a lengthy report, as those bodies have all but superseded us in our philanthropic designs—and although we are thus induced to admit the powerful influence exercised by those Bodies in this great reform, yet your Committee are not satisfied that the “Old Total Abstinence Society” should willingly accede their right to claim a share at least of the victory—upon the ground that the old T. A. S. was the first to scale the walls—break down the ramparts, and make the first breach in the fortification—we claim the laurel as being the first ship in action, but we are quite willing that every ship in sight at the close, should participate in the honors of the victory.

Your Committee considered that every individual (whatsoever sphere of action he may occupy in society) exercises an influence—and that influence has a tendency, either to retard or promote the happiness of those around, every man in his right mind is studious to promote his own happiness, and if he is obedient to the Sovereign command, he will also feel it his duty to promote the happiness of his neighbor—with this view of the subject, we must use our influence and remove the stumbling block out of the way.

In Europe and in various portions of the world—war, plague and famine have swept off the human family by hundreds and by thousands,—but alcohol has spread its baneful effects over the whole world, or as far as civilized man has penetrated; it has blunted the efforts of the Christian Missionary in heathen lands, and destroyed the fondest hopes of the parent at home. The statesman and the philosopher, the man of power, and the peasant have been laid in the drunkard's grave—expensive education and brilliant talents have been prostrated, domestic happiness dethroned, and misery and woe have terminated the existence of its unhappy victims. Then are our duties plain before us, and for our encouragement we should bear in mind that the harder the conflict, the greater the victory.

Perseverance must be indelibly inscribed on our Banners—we must nail our standard to the mast, and onward must be our march in defiance of all opposition. Already has the great lever been applied to the bulwarks of intemperance, and by perseverance (with the aid of our auxiliaries) we will not only shake its foundation, but down it will come, down it must come.

Your Committee are much encouraged when they bear in mind, that small means, when judiciously applied, effect great purposes—the smallest tributary stream that flows into the great Atlantic augment and replenishes that mighty ocean, upon which float the great navies of the world.

In taking a retrospective view, we find that this Society at its formation, was composed of only seven or eight individuals, the butt and the scoff—not of the votaries of Bacchus

alone, but also of the wealthy and intelligent, and men in the highest stations and rank in life. But what are we now? a formidable host of invincibles, ready with the aid of our auxiliaries, and the assistance of Providence to beat down all opposition and carry out a great moral reformation, well calculated to be a blessing to the human family.

FREE CHURCH ABSTAINERS' SOCIETY.

PUBLIC MEETING.

On Monday evening, a numerous and respectable meeting of the adherents and friends of the Free Church Abstainers' Society was held in Hope Street Gothic Church. John Musher, Esq., occupied the chair. We observed present the Rev. Henry Grey, F. D., Edinburgh; Rev. William Annot, Rev. Robert McClellan, St. Ninians; John M. Douglas, Esq., Cupar Fife; T. C. Orr, Esq.; John Jackson, F. q.; George Murray, Esq.; John McCindoo, Esq.; George Galtie, Esq., Robert Thomson, Esq., &c.

The proceedings were opened with devotional exercises led by the Rev. Dr. Grey.

The Chairman, in brief terms, introduced

The Rev. Dr. Grey, who was cordially greeted. After passing a well merited eulogy on his friend, the Rev. Mr. Burns, of Kilsyth, whom, he said, he had expected to have seen in the chair, he proceeded to observe, that the object for which they were met together that evening was, in his apprehension, a very important, and even a sacred one, affecting extensively the good of their fellow men, and the interest of true piety. They would all, he thought, agree with him in resting the vindication of their society on the great principles of faith and Christian benevolence, that every man should look not only to his own things merely, but to the things of others—that every man should seek not his own profit alone, but the profit of many, that they may be saved. The society was founded on Christian principles, and on these they were fully justified. He held it to be incumbent upon them as members of society, and still more as Christians, to look abroad on the community they dwell in, and to consider its state and circumstances—its wants and necessities—its diseases, physical and moral—and to consider what remedies were applicable to the cure of them. Now it needed no deep search to see that intemperance had become the besetting sin of this nation. It had been said that this cold northern clime required the stimulant of spirituous liquors more than the warmer regions of the south. He knew not whether this were true. He was disposed to doubt it. But even admitted, what did it prove, but that the vice of a community corresponded to the inducements to vice and the opportunities given of indulging vicious propensities. However they might account for the fact, it was undeniable that gross and flagrant drunkenness was lamentably prevalent. Of late years, and particularly since the commencement of the present century, drunkenness had been banished from the society of the cultivated; but a late case, where they had incurred the censure of the authorities, showed that degrading drunkenness was still sometimes found among persons possessing wealth and title. But admitting that the vice was a degrading vice, it was, notwithstanding, still in fashion; and he felt that in one class it had received an additional momentum and accelerated force—he meant specially among the laboring class. It was a vice which seemed to draw encouragement from all quarters, and apologies and justifications from all variety of events. For example, as labor increased and wages lowered, so the laboring man, subjected to many difficulties, got depressed, and had recourse to drinking for comfort, for excitement, for relief. Then again, when labor was abundant and wages plentiful, drinking was the delight of prosperity. It was an undeniable fact, that this vice was exhausting the resources of the poor, degrading their character, and covering society with multifarious crimes. Whatever might be said, this was the case, and they must set themselves to meet this prevailing evil. And truly, in present circumstances, it became them all to use their best endeavors to reclaim their brethren from the temptation with which they were every where beset. They could not expect that drunkards were to unite together for their recovery, no more than that infidels would unite to seek the conversion of the unbeliever. Those who are blessed with abundant mercies—these were the persons who might be expected to show mercy to others. The first movement for recovery and for amendment must in this, as in other cases, begin with those who were actuated by sound principles, and were them.

selves pure. It was now an ascertained fact, that drunkenness, while it was not itself a vice punishable by law, was the parent and the source of the long train of crimes that were so punishable. If they examined the registers of the police officers—if they investigated the cases which came before the Sheriff and higher courts—they found invariably that, even where drunkenness had not been the primary, it had yet been a principal cause of the long train of disorders that lead ultimately to ruin—if not the originating cause, it had been the auxiliary, the propelling cause. They invariably found that there was no form of vice with which intemperance was not associated. What was it that caused the household brawls, the frolic assaults and murders, the barbarity and brutality that overwhelmed all the domestic affections? What was it that caused the ruin of the families of the poor, the neglect and perversion of education, the defiance of decency, the neglect and abuse of the Sabbath? What was it that made the demand for ragged schools—what was it that filled their jails and work-houses, that demoralized and degraded so large a portion of the population? Did it not all arise from this prevailing vice, and from the innumerable vices associated with it? No one could deny that either directly, or by some intervening link, this degradation of our people took its rise from intoxicating liquors. How came it to pass that there was so many police offences committed between Saturday night and Monday morning? Was it not because this was the time specially devoted to this debauchery—the time when ordinary work ceased, and gave place to voluntary occupation and enjoyments—the time when the labourer had money in his hands, and when the call to duty was overborne by the force of temptation? In the city where he resided, he understood that somewhere about £100,000 was annually expended in Sabbath public house drinking. It was distressing to think that whilst bread and other provisions must be laid in on Saturday night, in order that the shops and stores might be shut up on Sabbath, there was an exception in favour of spirituous liquors. It was found lately, on an investigation in Edinburgh, that 400 public houses were on the Sabbath plying their customary trade, as if dram-drinking were an ordinance of religion, and as if it were part of the means by which the Sabbath was to be sanctified. He understood that the city of Glasgow expended £1,200,000 sterling annually in intoxicating liquors. Now, a million of this certainly went out of the pockets of the poor. What a history did this reveal of the present state of things! How bountiful was God, and oh, how ungrateful and perverse was man! This money, rightly economised and properly employed, would go far to feed and clothe, to house and educate, to relieve and render comfortable all the poor of the city, and change a mass of corruption and abomination into a well-conducted, peaceful, and happy community. What measures were they to take for the repression of this evil, and for its ultimate extirpation? No single panacea could be found to cure the disease in all its phases. They advocated to the full the benefits of education, of moral discipline, of Christian instruction, of economic measures for giving employment to the poor, and the means of subsistence, of improving the dwellings of the poor, and making them such as would contribute to decency and to health—he said they advocated to the full all such measures. The want of this was deeply to be deplored; but after all, if they could not destroy this vice, all those evils would spring up again like the heads of the Hydra. This monster vice was favoured and fostered by their own habits and customs—it was supported by the specious opinions and popular practices of the country—it was encouraged by the respectability of those who drank. But what was to be done? Something, he believed, might be done by a powerful Government, if sustained by Christian principle. He did not see why the Government might not issue such orders and make such laws as greatly to reduce the number of public houses. In place of allowing one public house for every half dozen, or dozen, or score of other houses, Government might not allow more than one public-house to a hundred ordinary dwellings.

The Rev. Mr. McCorkle next addressed the meeting.

Mr. Douglas, on being introduced, was very warmly received. After some introductory remarks, he said they were progressing most favorably. They had now 66 Free Church ministers as members of their body—and he had that day received letters from two more—one of whom was not quite satisfied with their constitution, but he was going to attend their next meeting, and would then perhaps join them; the other was to be at his residence to-morrow, and they would then consult regarding the sub-

ject. A minister in the North had lately resolved to join, and he now wrote to say that he hoped to bring all his presbytery along with him. He might also inform them that their ranks had received a powerful accession in the person of Mr. Peter Drummond of Stirling, who he (Mr. Douglas) was sure would prove a most energetic and efficient member. Altogether, there were many most encouraging and gratifying symptoms attending them, and curious, too, some of them were. For instance, the first thing charged against them was that they were a parcel of hot-headed young men. Now, it was pleasant to know that they had the five oldest ministers of the Free Church upon their side. They had ministers members in almost every Synod, and they were represented in 32 Presbyteries. He believed that there were about 30 ministers who, though they had not joined them, were at present practising abstinence, trying as it were, how it would agree with their constitution. Their doctors told them that a little wine did them good, and they were afraid to go against their advice. His experience, however, led him to disbelieve the accuracy of their statement; for he found himself much better, stronger, and healthier, since he practised abstinence than before. Certain ladies had joined their ranks, and done good service, and it was of singular importance to obtain to the widest possible extent, their good-will and active aid in this undertaking which falls peculiarly within their domestic empire. Mr. Douglas concluded his address by appealing to the friends of the movement to support it by their contributions, and enable them to get at the sources of power.

The Rev. Mr. Arnot, on rising, was very cordially received.—He said he attended this meeting as he did the previous one, in order to take his share of any difficulty of responsibility that might attach to the proceedings, as well as of getting his portion of any honor that might be a going. A very dear, eminent, and esteemed friend of his, in speaking to him on the subject, had dissented from this view. He said he could not join the society without committing himself to many similar bodies—alleging that there existed just as much need for a society against extravagance in dress. He (Mr. Arnot), if any one was there whose better half was given to wearing too much lace, could only suggest that he should keep the purse strings tight, and if the lady had a fortune of her own, she must, he supposed, be allowed to do as she pleased. It was very evident, however, that as regards dress they could not adopt the principles of total abstinence. He could argue against the objection in no other way, because the cases were no way analogous.—When extravagance in dress came, like extravagance in drinking, to be the cause of the largest portion of the crime and misery of the country, then they might proceed to institute some sort of a society against it. He did not undertake to say which was the greatest comparative sin in the sight of God; it was not for him to declare or even imagine that, but it was evident that such an objection was altogether irrelevant and beside the question. There was occasionally some muttering among their Free Church friends as to the increase in their number of schemes; it was said they were multiplying and bringing in too many schemes, and that the effect of soliciting contributions for a new one would be to limit those given to the rest. He thought it manifestly and demonstrably true, that even in asking money contributions for this scheme they might increase the ability to support the others. If their principles were diffused over all the adherents of the Free Church, there would be a deal of money saved; and even though one fourth of it were given to the Abstinence Society proper, there would still be a great overplus for the other schemes. He deemed it an encouraging fact that there existed now far less of gross and outrageous drunkenness among the refined and opulent classes than there was in the last generation. This was gratifying, because fashions, whether good or evil in their nature, gravitated downwards—they reached the lowest classes after having been abandoned by the highest. Even in the matter of a spring bonnet, the Queen set the fashion, and it went down and down, till at last the poorest would be found dashing away with that exact shape long after her Majesty had got another. Like as a steamer when passing through a lake, raised a deal of splutter and ferment just where she was passing, which afterwards became quite smooth and calm, while the agitation which had been caused spent itself in lashing the shore; so the higher classes were now quiet and calm, but the example they had set was raging among the lower classes; and he asked if the former were not called upon to come down and allay the troubles they had caused? There were some of his friends who said to him that it was quite

necessary to do something for the suppression of drunkenness, but that theirs was not a right plan—that this abstinence principle was not a proper thing. He replied—"It is our way: what is yours?" If he saw them very zealous in some other way he would say nothing, but co-operate with them; but at present he could not see that they were doing anything, and therefore he must proceed as he was doing. There was nothing which caused him more pain and distress than the customs of drinking toasts at the ordination of ministers—a custom which still lingered in some parts of the country, though he was glad to say it had been well nigh put down here. It was now ashamed to hold up its head. The Assembly had approved of a report, expressing in distinct terms a condemnation not only of drunkenness, but of drinking customs; and feeble and timid as he was in debate, he yet thought he should be able to stand up before his reverend fathers and brethren, and dare them to say if toasting healths round and round was not a drinking custom, what was one? He had himself advertised out of this abuse in his own Presbytery, and he had pleasure in publicly declaring before his brethren here how much he shrank from and abhorred the practice. He understood from Mr. Douglas that they were to have a grand breakfast during the Assembly—they would breakfast royally on teetotal principles. He trusted that then they would influence some of the brethren who might be assembled, and bring them to consider the matter. He knew that there were many of them who were literally in the position described, of trying how abstinence would agree with their constitution. They were becoming doubtful of the benefit of wine. The text from Timothy would not settle the matter. Chemistry was not so well understood in his days as now. Ho (Mr. A.) did not know what would induce him to drink wine ordinarily, because he could never be able to convince himself of its purity, unless he were at the making of it; for he understood it to be compounded of all abominations. Mr. Arnot concluded, amid much applause, by expressing his willingness, if it were necessary, to serve the society in any way that he could.

A vote of thanks having, on the motion of Mr. Ferguson, been awarded to the speakers from a distance, Mr. McCorkle pronounced the benediction, and the meeting separated.

A GOOD TOAST.

The Temperance Army: The only army ever known where each volunteer is a Regular, and every private an Orderly. May it soon become the "army of occupation" throughout the world.

Poetry.

THE DYING DRUNKARD.

BY A PHYSICIAN.

Hark! hark! methinks I hear a tone
Of curses mingling now with groans,
That strikes upon the listening ear
In notes of woe! Are Demons here?
"Back! back! ye hell-hounds!" now he cries,
While maddening frenzy fires his eyes,
And with fatigue upon his couch
Awaits again the fiend's approach.

"Help! help!" he cries again, "they come;
Oh! don't you see their forked tongues;
Keep them away! O! God! they tear
My flesh, and wind among my hair!
Ho! drive them from around my head!
I feel them now within my bed!
Vipers of Hell! what do I see—
O! 'tis a ghost! where shall I flee?
My wife! she comes e'en from her grave
To haunt me! Back! thou can'st not save!
Hell yawns to clasp my wretched soul,
And devils now my heart-strings hold!
They come! they come! O God! save! save!
I sink with demons to the grave.

Away! away!"—His strength was gone,
And with a curse, his life was done!
Delirium Tremens fired his brain,
And death how closed the Drunkard's strain.

O! 'twas a fearful scene! upon
His couch of straw his life was done,
And now before me, lifeless lay
The haggard form—the drunkard's clay!
No friend was there to close his eyes,
(Save those who were humanity's)—
His youthful bride long since was laid
Beneath the weeping willow's shade,
I need not tell her fate—she died—
And, too, the infant by her side,
This was thy work! O! Devil's bait—
Spirit infernal, from the strait,
Darker than Stygian shades, where dwell
The company that drank and fell.

Reader—would'st thou thus choose to die?
Ah! no! then from the tempter fly!
Touch not the cup! It poison bears,
And ultimately leaves thee there!
Think of the end ere thou shalt take
The fatal cup, for thy own sake!
For the first glass of ruin's way,
May lead thee to a drunkard's grave!

SONG OF THE DECANter.

There was an old decan-
ter, and its mouth was
gaping wide; the
rosy wine had
ebbed away
and left
its crys-
tal side:
and the wind
went humming—
humming;
up and
down the
wind it blow,
and through the
reed-like
hollow neck
the wildest notes it
threw. I placed it in the
window, where the blast was
blowing free, and fancied that its
pale mouth sang the quicrest strains to
me. "They tell me—puny conquerors! the
Plague has slain ten, and War his hundred
thousand of the very best of men; but I"—'twas
thus the Bottle spake—"but I have conquered
more than all your famous conquerors, so
feared and famed of yore. Then come, ye
youths and maidens all, come drunk from
out my cup, the beverage that dulls the
brain and burns the spirits up; that puts
to shame your conquerors who slay their
scores below; for this has deluged mil-
lions with the lava tide of wo. 'Tho'
in the path of battle darkest streams
of blood may roll; yet while I kill-
ed the body I have damn'd the vo-
ry soul. The cholera, the plague,
the sword, such ruin never wr'e't,
as I, in mirth or malice, on the
innocent have brought. And
still I breathe upon them, and
they shrink before my breath,
and year by year my thousands
tread the dusty way of death."

THE MALTRUSTED BOATMAN'S SONG.

T. Andante.

Alto.

1. Come, brothers come, join our noble band, Drive intemp'rance from the land; Long under bondage you have lain, Burst asunder now the chain.

Air.

2. See how your old companions die, Soon with them you too may lie; Friendship and love now loudly call, Burst from alcohol's dread thrall.

B.

Then haste come and sign whils of hope there's a ray, Remember there's danger each moment you stay, Then sign, and when all danger's gone,

To be sung at the end of the 2d verse.

sweet will be your welcome home, home, home, How sweet your welcome home, Sweet, oh sweet will be your welcome home,

[Welcome home, welcome home, welcome home.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A communication from J. B. Crow, Pelham, has been received, and will appear in our next.

Canada Temperance Advocate.

MONTREAL, JUNE 1, 1850.

AWFUL DEATH.

One of those tragic events has again occurred amongst us, which furnish a better commentary on the vice of intemperance, and the tendency of the License law, than the most eloquent pen could indite. We allude to the death of the late Mr. Alex. Nimmo. His sudden demise has been mentioned in the newspapers of the city, but the account which has been given of it, has been such as to leave the public in ignorance of its real nature and causes. We deem it necessary for the interests of morality, and from a desire to impress the warning which Providence seems to be uttering in the circumstances, to give a correct version; and as our information is derived from one who has the best means of knowing the truth, the following account may be relied on.

About twenty years ago, the late Mr. A. Nimmo held a place among the most respectable merchants in this city. He was, for some years, confidential clerk of the late A. L. Macnider, and subsequently opened a Dry Goods Store in St. Paul-street, which, along with Watkins' in its immediate neighborhood, was one of the most elegant, and best frequented in the city. He had such a run of business there, that he might soon have retired with an ample fortune; but he gradually gave way to habits of intemperance; as a consequence, his business was neglected, his wealth was wasted, and the whole was soon in the hands of his creditors. After this he fell very low; he struggled on for many years, earning a precarious subsistence without any regular employment, but giving himself up more and more to the giant power of intemperance. Latterly he was employed by our informant as a witness for the prosecution, in giving evidence against persons accused of selling spirituous liquors without license. His business, as such, was to go to all taverns, against the keepers of which proceedings were about to be instituted, and procure, at least, a glass of liquor, and pay for it; (for so this abominable law requires;) a very dangerous employment, it will be admitted, for a person of his habits. About a fortnight ago, our informant sent him to three suspected taverns to obtain evidence; two of them in the Quebec Suburb, and the other, at a short distance from the city. He fulfilled this satisfactorily; the evidence was obtained; and the cases were to be tried before the Court, on Wednesday, the 22nd inst. But one of the tavern-keepers in question, having ascertained that Nimmo was the only witness against him, sent a person to him on the evening of Tuesday, the 21st, to his place of residence, in St. Urbain-street, to endeavor to persuade him not to give evidence. This individual was of similar habits with Nimmo himself. Our informant states that, in the hearing of his wife, he offered him four dollars if he would not appear against him; two dollars to be paid before, and other two after the prosecution. He then took N. with him, as if to receive the first instalment from one of the accused parties in Quebec Suburb; but he went previously to another house in the same neighborhood, where he gave N. a half pint of what is called *one-to-one*, in the slang language of bar-waiters. He then brought him to said tavern in a state of complete intoxication, but instead of giving him two dollars, the tavern-keeper gave him other two glasses

of liquor, and then put him into a back room for the night. Next morning he was found dead!

On Wednesday morning, when the Court was about to assemble, inquiry was made for Nimmo, but he was no where to be found. Our informant went to his house, and made inquiry there. Mrs. N. informed him that the person above alluded to, had taken him away the preceding evening, and that he had never returned. Immediately suspecting that his witness had been tampered with, and that the prosecutions must necessarily fall to the ground, he returned to the Court-house, where he found it whispered about that Nimmo was lying dead in S——'s tavern, in Quebec Suburb. He immediately despatched a person to make inquiry, who soon returned with the information, that he was lying dead on the floor, in S——'s back room. The prosecutions were, of course, necessarily withdrawn, and the unlicensed vendors of strong drink escaped, for the witness was effectually removed out of the way!

This, we believe, to be an unvarnished statement of the facts, out of which the Coroner's jury brought a verdict of "*Death by Apoplexy*,"—a sentence which makes us feel the deepest regret, that an institution of law, which is designed to expose crime, and bring it to punishment, should be so easily perverted into a means of concealing it.

But without dwelling upon this, we ask, what is to be thought of the tavern-keeper and his accomplice? In whatever light their conduct may be viewed by the law of the land, and of this we presume not to judge, yet, according to the law of God, which is spiritual and holy, will not the blood of poor Nimmo be found upon their skirts? What is to be said of the companions of Nimmo, who, in the days of his prosperity, received him at their tables, treated him to their "choicest wines and brandies," and cheered him on in the course of intemperance which he had just begun? If they had given him a friendly caution in time, perhaps he might have been saved. What is to be said of his minister or religious adviser, if he had any? Did he fulfil his holy vocation, to give the wicked warning? When a Temperance Society was formed in this city, did he advise him to join it, or did he prevent him, either by example or precept, from embracing the refuge which it presents to him? Or what shall be said of the law, which requires that before a person can give evidence against unlicensed retailers, he must personally procure liquor, and pay for it, in their dens of iniquity? This is to give the unlicensed venter the best possible chance of escaping, by confining the evidence against him to such persons, for the most part, as can be easily tampered with, and not only so, but to expose the life of the witness to the greatest jeopardy. For when an individual, with such habits as Nimmo's, is thereby placed in circumstances in which the offer of getting as much whisky as he can drink, is likely to be made to him, as a bribe to suppress his testimony, it is scarcely possible for him to resist it; though, with his habits, the swallowing of so much alcoholic liquor, is almost tantamount to the taking of so much poison. As it now stands, the law displays a criminal partiality towards the unlicensed venter, and an inhuman disregard to the morals, and even the life, of the witness, by exposing him unnecessarily to the most perilous temptations. Fellow citizens, is this law still to continue? Are more victims to be sacrificed? Are more of our honorable merchants to be dragged down from their places like Nimmo, and left to breathe their last sigh, unheeded and uncared for, on the floor of a grog-shop? No! Your religion, your humanity say No!—The system must be put a stop to! Then petition, petition, the Legislature for the alteration of the License Law!

THE LICENSE LAW.

In the United States, the question of *License or No License* is engrossing the attention of the temperance public, and, in various State Legislatures, seems to occupy the same relative place of importance that the question of slavery occupies in the Houses of Congress. Even in the native country of Temperance Societies it is found, that the past victories of this great moral reformation will ever be insecure, so long as the government keeps up a steady opposition to it, by means of the License law. It ought not to surprise us, therefore, that the same thing has been discovered here, and it is an omen of good, that a general movement is commencing throughout Canada against these laws.

We extract the following notices of the progress of legislation on this subject from the *Journal of the American Temperance Union* :—

In the State of New York, just before the rising of the Legislature, the bill before that body for the entire prohibition of the sale of intoxicating drinks, as a beverage, was postponed by a vote of 56 to 38. This was done in part, it is supposed, from the great pressure of other most important business. The Report of the Committee is one of the most important papers ever presented to the Legislature and to the people of the State. The issuing of that alone, is glory enough for one day. Besides the Report, the State Society's memorial, and two stirring appeals from Mr. Warren, the State Agent, have been laid before the Legislature and the public, and the following highly important resolutions have been adopted and signed by more than fifty members.

1. *Resolved*, That in our opinion a very large number, and perhaps a majority of both branches of the Legislature were in favor of the "Act to restrain the sale of intoxicating drinks," and would have so voted, had the vote been taken on the direct question; and we sincerely lament that the efforts of the friends of the bill were rendered unsuccessful, partly at least, by the great amount of highly important business that necessarily engaged attention.

2. *Resolved*, That the Report of the Select Committee of the Assembly, on the subject of Temperance, is an able and exceedingly valuable document, which well deserves to be circulated by thousands in every county in the State; and which will, in our opinion, happily tend to produce unity of sentiment, and harmony of measures, among the friends of this great and good reformation.

In VERMONT, the No License majority was between 7000 and 8000, sufficient to establish a strong public sentiment, though about 5000 less than last year. The No License votes have fallen off over 3000, and the Licensed votes increased over 1000. Less effort was made than before by the friends of the cause. The vendors of the alcoholic poisons begin to see that public sentiment is strongly established against them. Prosecutions for violation of license laws are not so easily sustained than formerly. A rum-seller who has formerly escaped by the payment of merely nominal damages, has now offered five hundred dollars to settle.

In MASSACHUSETTS, the very stringent bill of Mr. Hoar against the traffic had passed the House by a majority of 90, and went to the Senate. In the action of that body upon it, the *New Englander* says :—We take hope. The Senate of Massachusetts in its action has exceeded our expectations. On Saturday last, the House bill, making the sale of intoxicating drinks a penitentiary offence, and the utensils of the traffic *prima facie* evidence of guilt, came up by special assignment, when Mr. Dawes offered an amendment empowering county commissioners to license the sale of spirituous liquor in a less quantity than 28 gallons for mechanical and medicinal purposes, which was adopted. The question then recurred on a previous amendment of Mr. Dawes, striking out all the enacting clause, and in place of the bill, altering the word "spirituous" to "intoxicating," wherever it may occur in the 47th chapter of the Revised Statutes, and was debated and adopted. The bill was then passed to a third reading. The effects of this qualification of the old law is to include all intoxicating liquors, and is an advance on previous legislation, though not up to what is desired. On Monday, on the question of engrossment, Mr. Walker offered an amendment, adding a 3d section, that any person convicted of selling intoxicating drinks, shall, on the third conviction, be required to recognize in a sum not less than \$100 and not more than \$1000, to keep a sum

one year, and shall forfeit the same if convicted. Mr. Dawes moved to amend by inserting "may" instead of "shall," thus leaving it optional with the judges. On this last question the yeas and nays were taken, and it was rejected, by a vote of 16 to 17. The question of Mr. Walker's amendment was then taken and carried. The question was then taken again by yeas and nays on the engrossment, and decided by a vote of 27 to 4 in the affirmative. And thus the matter rests. We trust that the House will conform to this action, thinking it the most we shall get out of the Senate this year. At the next session another agitation must be had, and efforts made for a little further advance. We confess we have been agreeably disappointed in the action of the upper branch.

Dr. Jewett, in a letter to the editor of the *Cataract*, says :—The bill as amended will undoubtedly pass the House by a strong vote. Gentlemen rum-sellers, look out now for the "second" offence.

From OHIO, a correspondent of the *New Englander* says : "Perhaps you have heard something of the temperance bill that was presented to our legislature this winter by the present 'G. W. A.' of Ohio. Many of its provisions are stringent; all things considered, it is an excellent bill for the temperance cause; yet it passed the Senate! Every temperance man should fling up his hat at least once. Ten years ago the man who had made such a movement in the Legislature would have been scouted as a wild fanatic. Who says the temperance cause is retrograding? The man who believes that there is not now a stronger temperance feeling among the mass of the people than there was five years ago is not 'posted up.'"

In INDIANA, a bill for prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks, was defeated in the Legislature of Indiana by ten majority, but instead of being discouraged, a State Temperance Convention passed the following resolution. The fact is, such defeats only serve to stimulate temperance men of the right stamp to greater efforts :

"*Resolved*, That we will firmly and perseveringly use our influence as citizens to dissolve our connection with the liquor traffic, and to protect ourselves and families against its evils, first by memorial to the Legislature, and ever after at the ballot box till the work is accomplished."

From WISCONSIN, a correspondent of the *Home Missionary Journal* says :—The absorbing subject of thought and conversation among us at the present time, is temperance. New interest has recently been given to it by efforts to enforce the provision of our new law, relating to the sale of spirituous liquors, which makes the rum-seller responsible for the consequences of his traffic. Some have sold without giving the required bond, the penalty for which is a fine and imprisonment. Some of those offending against these provisions have been examined before a justice, and required to appear before next term of court for trial. They stoutly refused to give bonds to appear at court or go to jail, and threatened that there would be bloodshed, if the officer attempted to arrest them. They for some days had a great body of rum-drinkers, Irishmen and others, about them, raising a great excitement, and for a time it seemed doubtful whether law and order, or mob law, would rule here, but now it seems probable that the former will prevail. No serious injury has been done to any one. As might be expected, much reproach has been cast upon the decided friends of temperance."

This exhibits an extraordinary movement of the public mind on the subject of the License Laws, especially when taken in connexion with a similar movement in Canada; and should encourage the friends here to persevere. Whatever may be thought of these laws in the abstract, we apprehend the following observations will be generally admitted to be true :

1st. They take it for granted that it would be *wrong* to sell intoxicating liquors without license.

2d. They assume that the Government has power, to turn this wrong into a right, by granting a license.

3d. They teach that the Government may grant to an individual, for a certain sum of money, full license to do what it would be *wrong* for him to do without such authority, procured by purchase.

4th. They admit that the same authority which can restrict the

traffic, by the license system, can proceed a step farther, and restrain it altogether, if it see cause. And

5th. They give room for the argument, that the same considerations which influenced Government in former times, to restrict the traffic, when the evil of intemperance was so much less than it is now, ought to lead the Legislature to prohibit it entirely, at the present day.

[FOR THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.]
CONFIRMATION IN TEETOTALISM.

A well known friend and supporter of the temperance cause, writing me recently, said, "What has become of you? We have not seen you in the *Advocate* for a long time." In reply, I beg to state that I am in the possession of excellent health, and still a friend to the temperance cause, now and then advocating and enforcing its claims, although I have not appeared so frequently in print as once I did, partly from the uncertainty of my stay in this section of the country, and partly to avoid assuming, what some might think, undue importance. I am from conviction a teetotaler, and the more I read and think, the more I am confirmed in my views and practice. There is no wavering on the subject in my mind. With me it is no uncertain sound. The drinking customs of society have no charms, no baits for me. I can bow, indulge kind wishes, entertain and express kind sentiments, and behave with a degree of courtesy; but I need not the sparkling glass. I am free to avail myself of the medicinal use, of what, as a beverage, I reject for satisfactory reasons; and what more is needed? Even this in some cases may be abused; but the man who conscientiously adopts the abstinence principle, will seldom deviate from it even for medicinal purposes. He will be scrupulous in this instance, no less than in others, to avoid the appearance of evil.

But I will no longer speak in the first person, my remarks shall be general. The present article is headed "confirmation in teetotalism," because it is evident, we have two objects to accomplish as the friends and advocates of the temperance enterprise, viz., to convince and convert those who are not pledged, virtually or otherwise, to our principles; and to build up and confirm those who have avowed their adherence to them. These objects should be kept in view in our public meetings, and for their accomplishment the declared friends and members of temperance societies, no less than those who practically dissent from them, should be present to give their maintenance, and to aid by their sympathies and prayers. Reading is well in its place; but the influence of public meetings, where things, new and old, are brought forward, and the laws of association and fellowship are in lively operation, are of essential importance to our welfare, individually and collectively. We need confirmation and revival here no less than in other things, and therefore should use all available means to these ends. The mind should be exercised, the tongue should be employed, the press should be sustained, and associated instrumentality be countenanced, in order to effect the objects contemplated.

Some of our professed friends and adherents are not as consistent and decided as they should be. They require to be enlightened, to be established, to be quickened. They have their snares, their temptations, their enemies; so that unless well informed, and prepared to maintain their position, it will not be strange if we hear of occasional deviations, and foolish and unwarrantable concessions. The arts connected with the drinking usage of society are many, the pretexes used are so plausible, and the combined effects of the whole so powerful, especially in given circumstances, as to require the exercise of principle, and energy

of character, successfully to resist them. Teetotalers should ask, why do I abstain? Have I a basis broad and strong enough for this practice? Are my reasons many and conclusive? Have I acted from conviction? Is it for my own sake? Is it from a regard to my family? Is it that I may exhibit a wise and safe example to my neighbors? Is it that I may encourage those that are engaged in a great and glorious enterprise? Is it from a regard to the consequences of such a course, in relation to things civil, moral and religious? Is it from a desire to serve and glorify God? Such questions may be multiplied to almost any extent, but we shall forbear. Why then do I abstain? If I have sufficient reasons, for those reasons, single and united, I ought to be firm and consistent; and having commenced a right course, should steadily advance, and fully develop my principles. I should not grow weary in the advocacy, the support, and the practice of them, but rather become stronger, more determined, more zealous. *Nor*elly may move others, and toss them about like the waves of the sea; but while not indifferent to things new, valuable and practicable, let me steadfastly adhere to what is good and old; and having put my hand to the plough of benevolent and Christian enterprise, let me press on, assured of a glorious victory.

Brethren in the temperance cause! be concerned for your own confirmation, and the confirmation of others, in this blessed work. Give proofs of confirmation by your liberality, your prayerfulness, your devotedness. In your hands is placed a precious and weighty trust. To you many are looking with an anxious eye. On your integrity and efforts the welfare of many depend. Not only the present generation, but generations yet unborn will be affected by your doings in this particular department of labour. Be not lukewarm and inactive. Hold up the hands of those who are willing to work, and be ready to co-operate whenever you have an opportunity. Cease not to agitate all questions connected with the interests of the general cause. Keep your eye upon the Legislature. Forget not the License Law. Look to your councillors. Lose not sight of the facilities for drinking that exist, by the sanction of law, and contrary to its sanction. "The eyes of the wise man are in his head." Look behind, around, before, and ponder your ways. Devise judicious and liberal things, and look upward for direction and success, and the issue will be blessed. Never be ashamed of your position. It is honorable! Never distrust your principles. They will prevail! Ask not who is your neighbor? For every man is such to whom you can extend the blessings of temperance. Live not for yourselves. That is unchristian. "Be ye steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord." "Let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

J. T. B.

Bytown, April 29, 1850.

TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION, EXETER HALL.

We omitted in our last to call the attention of our readers to the Reports given on page 147 of the closing of a series of monthly meetings that have been held in Exeter Hall. From all that we can gather from our different exchanges, these meetings have been of a deeply interesting kind, and have made a powerful impression on the public mind. We regret that our limited space has compelled us to omit previous reports of these meetings. We call special attention to them now, in the hope that in our land, the friends of this grand movement will, in different localities, take example from that now given, and see that another winter does not pass without a united systematic effort being made

throughout the entire country. The subjects should all be selected some time before-hand, and the arrangements made, both as to the chairman and speakers, that the lesson may be one of revival as well as permanent good. We shall take another opportunity of advertng to this subject.

LETTER FROM REV. E. CHINIQUY.

I have the pleasure to inform you that Petitions are about to be sent to the House of Assembly, from every parish in the districts of Montreal, Quebec and Three Rivers, for the enactment of a law to restrict, as much as possible, all traffic in strong drinks. Those efforts, united with those of Rechabites and Sons of Temperance, cannot fail to be favorably received by our law-makers. I have lately been on a tour, about ninety miles below Quebec, and in every place the Temperance cause is rapidly progressing, sweeping down on its onward march, all those prejudices and impediments raised by the foe.

E. CHINIQUY, Pr.

We are glad to perceive from the above, not only that Mr. Chiniquy has recovered from his late attack, but that he has resumed his labors again in the Temperance Cause, and especially that there is such a strong and healthy feeling on the subject of the License law, throughout the Districts mentioned; or, we might say, throughout Lower Canada; for the districts of Quebec and Montreal contain three-fourths of the population. It presents the gratifying information that the French part of the population are moving *en masse* upon the question; let the British part petition as generally and unanimously! The table of Parliament will then be covered up with petitions, and their prayer must be granted.

—ED. CAN. TEMP. ADV.

Granby, 23rd May, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—In looking over the *Advocate*, of 15th January, I find you seem to express some, altho' I must say, small doubts as to the practical working of the law for regulating the sale of ardent spirits in the state of Wisconsin. I have just returned from that State, and my only business there, was to make myself acquainted with the workings of that law, and I am happy to have it in my power to inform you that that law has been better sustained in that state than its most sanguine projectors anticipated, and that last season it was superseded by one still more stringent upon those engaged in the trade.

I have written testimonials from some of the most influential men of that State, who give it as their opinion this Law will, in a very short time have to give place to one prohibiting its manufacture or sale for any other but mechanical or medicinal purposes.

I am, &c,

J. LEWIS MACDONALD.

We cheerfully insert the above letter. Our correspondent is pleased to characterise the doubts we expressed respecting the practical working of the Wisconsin Law, as 'rather small doubts.' They appear to be so to him, they were very grave doubts to us at the time, and we must say that, notwithstanding his letter to the contrary, we have grave doubts still, but we are willing, nay anxious to give the law a trial. We have several rather stringent enactments on our own statute book, for restraining the traffic, but the state of public opinion is such, that they cannot be enforced, and it was therefore not unnatural for us, to have our doubts whether the more stringent Wisconsin law would not meet with the same obstruction.

Our correspondent has been on the ground, however, and has seen more evidence than we have had access to, he has 'papers and testimonials from some of the most influential men of the State,' in favor of the law. We regret that he has not sent us a copy of them, by which perhaps our doubts might have been

completely removed. Will he have the goodness to send us a copy for our next issue, together with an explanation of the changes already made on the law, and those that are still contemplated?—
ED. C. T. A.

Berlin, April 27, 1850.

The cause of temperance seems to be increasing in interest amongst us, and the members multiplying. Since the commencement of this year we had several interesting meetings, which resulted in twenty-two additions to our society. We keep up our monthly meetings, and trust by so doing that we will be able, not only to keep the ground we already occupy but also to advance nearer the ranks of our enemy's forces. One of his generals (an inn-keeper, of which we have four) was well nigh a victim to his own over-heated zeal a few days ago. Another spell of the same (delirium tremens) will finish the business with him.

A. Z. GOTTSWALD, Cor. Sec.

We are gratified to learn from an esteemed correspondent in London, C. W., under date of April 19, 1850, that the cause has taken a new start in that place, and that the society has been re-organized.

"Upwards of 1500 names have been appended to the new pledge book out of a population of 5000. The Rev. Mr. Boyd and others have given interest to our late meetings, and have been ably followed by Mr. Wood, a philanthropist from the States. Our tea meeting, at 7 1/2 each, was so well attended as to bear its own cost. But the downward drinking influences seem to keep pace with us. The community of the united Province are much indebted to you for the responsible position you have assumed, so as to keep the 'Temperance Banner aloft.'—J. F.

MR. EDITOR,—I wish, through your paper, to give a brief statement of what I have seen and heard on my late journey to the United States, respecting the cause of Temperance.

I met with Father Mathew in Philadelphia, and again in Savannah. In both places, I heard him administer the pledge. He told me that he had on his pledge book between five and six millions of names. I asked him what proportion he thought had broken the pledge? He said not more than five in a hundred. It truly is a very great blessing to be instrumental in saving so many fellow-men from a drunkard's grave. Every good man must wish him success. He told me that I might tell the people of Canada that he intended to pay them a visit before he returned to his native land.

I met with a number of faithful advocates for Temperance in Charleston, S. C., among the judges of the court, as well as ministers of the Gospel. It is very greatly to be desired, that all ministers in Church and State, with all judges, magistrates, and teachers, may do likewise.

The plan of a CHRISTIAN UNION for the suppression of vice and promotion of useful knowledge, has lately been adopted at Washington and other cities, in which all who sign the paper promise, by Divine assistance, to abstain from every thing hurtful and unnecessary, and do to all as they would wish that others may do to them.

Some good men have objected to the Temperance pledge, on account of its taking notice of one vice only; but the Christian Union takes notice of all vices, each promising, with God's assistance, to abstain from every thing hurtful and unnecessary, taking the Bible for the rule of their faith and practice.

This Union has received the approbation of the Hon. H. Clay, the Hon Judge McLean, with many ministers of the Gospel in Washington.

Should it be generally adopted by the population of Great Britain and the United States, much crime and suffering would be prevented.

It is truly a painful reflection, that in Great Britain and in the United States, more than eight thousand lives, and more than five hundred millions of dollars, are annually sacrificed to the god of drunkards. All who use strong drink are accessory to this alarming loss of life and property.

That God may induce all to make the Bible the rule of their faith and practice, daily imitating him who went about doing good, is the prayer of

THADDEUS OSAGOON,

Agent of the S. and S. F. S.

Montreal, 20th May, 1850.

PUBLIC MEETING.

We take the following gratifying account of an important Temperance Meeting at Quebec from the *Quebec Gazette*.

By a combined movement on the part of the "Quebec" and "Union" Total Abstinence Societies, the services of the Rev. Lachlin Taylor were enlisted in behalf of the cause of Total Abstinence in this city on Tuesday evening last, when that eloquent and able advocate of the cause delivered, in the Parliament Hall, to a numerous and respectable meeting, one of the most powerful lectures which have ever been addressed to a Quebec audience. The energy of the Rev. Lecturer's manner; the rich imagery of his oratory—adapted by turns to the grave and to the humorous aspect of his subject; the fluency of his diction, and his redundancy in anecdote,—all combined to edify and fascinate his applauding auditory until a late hour in the evening. His style was rather declamatory than argumentative: polemical, and although its glowing character enhanced its attractiveness and novelty at the time, this peculiar feature only renders more difficult the task of sketching even the outlines of his address. It was meant to be heard, rather than reported and read. Nor can we doubt that it has rendered essential benefit to a cause which at once honors, and is honored by, such ardent and talented support.

Mr. Taylor having closed his lecture, the Rev. Wm. Scott drew the attention of the meeting to certain improvements in the law relative to the sale of intoxicating liquors, intended to be proposed during the present session of the Provincial Parliament, and on his motion, seconded by Mr. Blight, the following Resolution was, after being amended, unanimously passed:—

"That, in view of the present anomalous character of the laws relating to the sale of intoxicating drinks, and considering that a measure is to be introduced during the present session of Parliament, for the removal of those laws and the substitution of a better, it is expedient immediately to prepare a petition to the Legislature, praying that the statute-book may be cleansed of its incentives to the sin of intemperance."

The meeting adjourned at about ten o'clock, p. m.

Agriculture.

ON MANURES.

(From *Agricola's Letters*.)

In the earliest and rudest beginnings of society, of which we have any historical records, mankind seem soon to have been experimentally taught, that crops of whatever description had a tendency to extract the riches of the soil, and that the waste must be repaired in some way or other. The first and most obvious method was to abandon the field which was exhausted; and leave nature to herself in the restoration of fertility. The plough always opened a fresh

and virgin mould: and where land was abundant compared with the population, the defects of this system would not force themselves very readily on attention. But after cities began to be founded, and when man, tired of his wandering and pastoral life, sought the enjoyments and repose of a settled abode; it was soon discovered, that recourse must be had to other means than the slow and lingering process of rest, to sustain and perpetuate the productive powers of the earth. Hence the origin of manures; and hence too the important station assigned them in ancient books of husbandry. The application of dung was indubitably of the earliest date, and was practised by the Chaldeans, the Persians, the Phœnicians, the Carthagians, the Greeks, and the Romans; but at what period the fossil manures were introduced into husbandry is uncertain, and like other important facts in the history of the arts, is involved in a dubious obscurity. We are informed on the authority of Pliny, that marls, were known to the people of Gaul, and of Britain, and even to the Greeks; that the benefit of this manure lasted for years; and that they were distinguished into a great variety of kinds. Lime, too, about this period in Gaul came into repute; and from thence was slowly diffused over the surrounding countries.

Manures have been divided by agriculturists into two classes, both of which have distinctive characters, and perform different offices in the economy of vegetation. The first of these comprehends all animals, and vegetable decomposing matter, and is principally instrumental in feeding the plant, in augmenting its size, and sustaining the vital energy. The second performs a much humbler part, and operates more on the soil and decomposing matter, than in directly contributing to the support of the vegetable; although even in this respect it is not altogether useless. The one has been called animal and vegetable, or putrescent manures, the other fossil, and sometimes septic and putrefactive. Whatever the name may be, the province of each is marked by precise boundaries: and it will beget confusion in the minds of my readers, unless they fully apprehend the distinction, and carry it along with them in any after train of reasoning.—The putrescent manures, to borrow a familiar image, are the actual dishes served up at the table of the vegetable kingdom. By them all the various tribes are sustained—the majestic oak as well as the lowly shrub—the poisonous weed as well as the medicinal herb—the corns—the grasses—the esculent roots—all feed on the rotting remains of animal and vegetable bodies: whereas the fossil manures, on the other hand, are merely the cooks, servants, waiters, and assistants at the table. Their business is to prepare and dress nutriment, to bring it forward when called for: and they may be dismissed or retained at pleasure. Under the second class are ranked not only lime, marl, and gypsum; but sand, gravel and clay; so that all the meliorations, which are effected on soil by blending and compounding the original earths, are comprised within its limits.—In truth, all those operations are called manuring, which influence fertility; and it is thought of no consequence, whether this be attained by the actual supply of the food in the shape of dung, or by altering the texture and quality of the soil, in order that this food be digested and prepared. It would have been better, had two things so distinct passed under different appellations: for it seems an abuse of language to speak of manuring with sand, lime or clay, and to classify these bodies under the same generic term with cow, sheep or horse dung; but, perhaps, the origin of this verbal inaccuracy may be traced to be crude and imperfect conceptions of philosophy in the infancy of husbandry. When men first began to cart marl, lime and stable manure to the same field, they were extremely apt to think, that all the substances served the same purpose in vegetation, and on that account gave them a common name.

The putrescent manures, from the high office assigned them in the vegetable kingdom, are foremost in importance and in

dignity; and to them I shall first direct my attention. Here, again, I shall be under the necessity of recurring to chemistry, in order to derive my lights and explanations; for the whole process carried on in the growth and sustentation of plants is nothing else but a mysterious and beneficent application of chemical laws, modified a little by the powers of life, under the management of the Great Author of nature. Such of my readers as have either preserved, or can now have access to my tenth and eleventh letters, will review them attentively, imbibe the rudiments which are there taught, and thus furnished with knowledge, will come prepared to reap the full benefit of the present inquiry. To the ignorant and unlettered clown these letters must be unprofitable and unavailing; and without some effort on his part to master the science, and drink at the sacred fountain of philosophy, it is totally impossible for me to lower the tone of expression, and to familiarise the illustrations, to the dulness of an unenlightened understanding.

I shall appropriate the present communication, to point out and enumerate what are meant by the animal and vegetable manures and make a few observations descriptive of their general character.

All animals, when they die, quickly pass into a state of corruption. The elements of which they are composed, being no longer fixed and retained by the living principles, begin to separate, and hasten into new combinations.—This arises from the joint action of heat and air; and also from the affinities and repulsions which are ever taking place among the minute particles of matter. The body, whether left exposed on the surface, or buried in the ground, will in a short time disappear, and moulder into dust. The bones, although last in the order of dissolution, will exhibit gradual symptoms of decay, and in the end submit to the common wreck of organised existence. This decomposition in every stage of its progress, is accomplished by the continual principles of the body becoming fluid and sinking downwards—or assuming a gaseous form, and escaping into the atmosphere—the common receptacle of acriform fluids.—The carcass, which has lain under the earth for an hundred years when disturbed in its asylum and dug up, has almost entirely vanished, and left nothing in its place to render visible either its forms, its bulk, or its consistence, except a black mould, as the last vestige of its being. Its volatile part has passed upwards, enriched the soil in its ascent, and again lives either in the vegetable or animal world.

(To be continued.)

SOURCES OF PLANTS.

Apples—All varieties of apples are derived from the crab apples, which are found in all parts of the earth.

Asparagus—This was brought from Asia to America.

Almonds are the fruit of a tree which grows chiefly in the Indies.

Barilla is a plant cultivated in Spain for its ashes, which are said to afford the purest alkali for making glass and soap.

Bread Fruit Tree is a native of the South Sea Islands—especially of Otaheite.

Coffee is a native of Arab Felix. It is now cultivated in various parts of the torrid zone, especially in the East and West Indies.

Cork is the bark of a species of oak, which grows in Spain and Portugal. After the bark is taken from the tree a new bark is formed, and in the course of six or seven years it is renewed.

Camphor is the concrete juice of a tree, a species of laurel, which grows in Borneo, Sumatra, and other parts of the East Indies.

Chocolate is made of cocoa, which is a nut grown in the

East Indies. The kernel of this nut is parched like coffee, pounded into dust, made into paste, then dried and made into cakes.

Cocoa—This nut grows in both Indies, on trees 50 or 60 feet high. They grow in bunches of seventy-two.

Cloves are the flower of a plant which grows in the Hallee and East Indies.

Cabbages was originally brought from Holland.

HISTORY OF GUANO.

Guano is the deposit of sea birds which has been accumulating for centuries on the islands of the coast of Peru; the birds resort to these places to lay, hatch and rear their young—a great many of the young die there, or are killed by being trodden under foot by the old birds. They exist in countless numbers, and living almost entirely on fish, their manure is of the richest kind produced. It never rains on the coast of Peru; the fertilizing properties of the bird-manure, therefore, are not subject to being washed out; and as very little of salts can be evaporated in a dry atmosphere, it retains nearly all its fertilizing properties for ages. This dry climate is peculiar to the coast of Peru. Guano coming from Chili or any other quarters of the globe cannot therefore be so good as the Peruvian.

WORMS AND CATERPILLARS.

I have heard much enquiry concerning the best method of destroying the worm or caterpillar, which makes such havoc with our apple or peach trees; the course I pursue is as follows: I take a half inch auger, and bore as nearly as I can judge, into the heart of the tree; fill the hole with sulphur, plug it up with a branch cut from the same tree, make it air tight, and in forty eight-hours the result is seen. This plan I have found efficient, and if the information is of any importance to you, it is at your service.

W. S. CHAPIN.

News.

CANADA.

IMMIGRATION.—Within two days, just passed, six thousand immigrants have arrived!—all looking fresh, healthy, well-dressed, and in excellent spirits. We have accounts from the Quarantine station, at Grosse Isle, which are happy of the most favorable character.—The number of patients admitted into hospital there (even with this sudden and overwhelming influx of strangers) being most inconsiderable, and the cases such, only, as occur in the most healthy season of immigration. In the Marine and Emigrant Hospital of this city, notwithstanding the very large number of shipping arrivals, with their human cargoes—6000 immigrants, exclusive of masters and seamen attached to 200 ships—the number of admission into the institution was but 14! and of these some were surgical cases.—*Quebec Gazette*, 22nd Instant.

LOSS OF THE COMMERCE.—The inquiry into the circumstances connected with the wreck of the *Commerce* took place at Port Maitland on Friday the 17th instant. It was conducted by Dr. Jarrow, Warden, and Messrs. Farrell and Imlach, magistrates of the District of Niagara. After a most minute and careful investigation, the masters of both vessels were bound over to stand their trial at the next Niagara Assizes. Agents from an Insurance Company, and for Macpherson & Crane, were present at the inquiry, with, we understand, a view towards procuring evidence on which to found a civil suit against the *Despatch*.—*Globe*.

CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.—It is our gratifying task to announce, that Mr. Justice Draper opened a Maiden Assize in this town on Tuesday. Not a criminal in gaol for trial. This change has extended itself to the Civil Docket. Instead of the usual

number of 90 to a 100 cases being docketed for trial, only 39 were entered. This looks like reform in the right direction; the people are getting their eyes opened to the folly of litigation, merely for the encouragement of the gentlemen of the "long robe."—*Belle-ville Intelligencer*.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE CHOLERA IN IRELAND.—This mysterious pestilence has made its appearance at Castlecomer, in the county of Kilkenny, and in Bagenalstown, in the adjoining county of Carlow. In the former locality there have been five cases, three of which proved fatal, one recovered, and one still under treatment. In the latter there have been six cases, two of which resulted in death, the remainder being under treatment.—*Times*.

EMIGRATION FROM IRELAND.—The tide continues to flow on uninterruptedly. Vessel after vessel leaves the ports of Dublin, Belfast, Waterford, and Limerick, freighted with the bone and sinew of Ireland. Comparatively substantial farmers and their families are, as the *Leinster Express* says, "making their escape, as from a house on fire."

EXTENSIVE FORGERY.—One of the wealthiest Lancashire and Yorkshire manufacturers, Mr. Threlfall, had been arrested on a charge of forging bills to the extent of £10,000. £12,000 had been discounted when he was taken, but the money was recovered. It is thought that he would have left in the Europa.

UNITED STATES.

SECRET LIQUOR SOCIETIES.—In speaking of the prevalence of secret societies generally, the *Utica Herald* notices the establishment of a secret order among the liquor dealers in Wisconsin, called the "Liquor Dealers' Protective Union," to operate against the influence of the Sons of Temperance. They have also started a secret society known by the name of the "Secret order of Bacchus," the object of which is declared to be to preserve some vestige of mirth, hilarity and happiness in this world, in spite of the chilling effects of cold water and canting hypocrisy.

FEMALE TEACHERS FOR THE WEST.—The *Buffalo Republic* says that Gov. Slade went through that city with twenty-five young ladies, designed as teachers for the Western States. Thus far the efforts of this society to aid in the education of the children and youth of the great Valley, have been greatly blessed.

LADY EDITORS.—There are now six weekly papers in the United States, under the editorial charge of ladies. A Western editor hopes that it will result in a great improvement of the manners and morals of the whole editorial fraternity.

BLANKETS.—Machinery has lately been invented, by which blankets, that to all appearance are entirely wool, are chiefly made with cotton. The cotton thread is wound with woolen thread, pretty much as the steel wire of a piano is wound with silver wire. The process is performed so cheaply that the difference in the price of the material makes a large profit to the manufacturer, while he can afford his article comparatively low.

A LARGE BUSINESS.—The annual production of the manufactory of coarse shoes known as brogans, in Massachusetts, is stated to be in value twenty millions of dollars, giving employment to about sixty thousand people.

CHILIAN FLOUR FOR CALIFORNIA.—A very interesting communication appears in the *Philadelphia North American*, from W. G. Moorhead, late United States Consul at Chili, in relation to the wheat trade of that country. It is said that Chili is capable of producing an immense amount of wheat, and that the cultivators are turning their attention very extensively to raising wheat, now that California has opened so fine a market to them. There is one estate near Santiago which is said to produce 80,000 bushels of wheat annually; and from 30,000 to 50,000 bushels is not an unusual yield from the wheat growing estates of the country.

KEEP YOUR ELBOWS IN.—A passenger in the cars from Stonington to Boston, who was sitting with his elbow out of the window, had his arm broken by coming in contact with a bridge.

THE AMERICAN EXPEDITION IN SEARCH OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN sailed from New York on Wednesday. This expedition consists of two vessels, ranked in Navy nomenclature as brigantines; the *Advance*, 144 tons, and *Rescue*, 91 tons. These vessels have been provided and fitted out by the generous munificence of Henry Grinnell, Esq., of this City, at an expense to him of more than \$30,000. The Government has also done much toward furnishing and directing the affair. The *Advance* is two years

old; the *Rescue* is new. Both vessels have been put in the most complete order for the services in which they are engaged.—*Tribune*.

MONTREAL BROKERS' CIRCULAR,

For the week ending Saturday, 25th May, 1850.

FLOUR.—There has been a fair amount of business transacted during the week at gradually improving prices, the best No. 1 Superfine having advanced 9d to 1s per barrel upon former prices, and all other grades in about the same proportion, and the Market rules firm to day at 22s, for fine; 23s 3d to 23s 6d, for Super No 2; 23s 9d to 24s, for Super No 1; and 24s 6d to 25s, for fancy brands.

OAT MEAL.—Has also advanced 1s per barrel, a few hundred barrels having changed hands at 20s 6d.

INDIAN MEAL.—No sales.

WHEAT.—The Market is still without supplies from Upper Canada. L. C. Red has been taken for shipment and for grading to a considerable extent at 4s 9d, per 60 lbs. and 5s per minot, and is now held at higher rates.

Barley.—Nominal at 2s 6d to 2s 7½d.—**Oats.**—5000 bushels were placed at 1s 7½d. F. O. B. They are now in demand at 1s 7d., and held at 1s 8d. **Peas.**—About 18,000 bushels have changed hands at 2s 9d, a 3s per minot, and are now held firm at the latter rate. **Indian Corn.**—3000 bushels were taken at 3s per 56 lbs., and a further quantity on private terms.

PROVISIONS.—Beef sells in retail parcels from 32s 6d for Primo, to 40s. For Primo Mess. Pork is firm at former quotations. **Butter.**—No. 2 has been sold at 6d.

ASSES.—The receipts of the week have been heavy, and Pigs, after touching 29s a 29s 3d, have receded from 28s 3d to 28s 6d, at which they are dull. **Pearls** have been steady at 27s 9d. a 28s., but might be bought, to-day, on rather easier terms.

FURCUTS.—Dull at 18s 9d. to 20s. per ton for ashes. **EXCHANGE.**—Bank advanced on Monday last to 1½, at which it is still quoted, but without demand. In Private there is very little doing.

STOCKS.—Commercial Bank has changed hands at 3 a 3½ discount, and, for City, 25 discount is offered and refused. Other Banks, as well as Mining and Telegraph Stocks, have been nominal during the week.—**Lachine Railway** has been taken at 75 discount.—**St. Lawrence and Atlantic** has also changed hands, to some extent, on private terms.

MONTREAL MARKET PRICES.—May 24, 1850.—Wheat per minot, 4s 9d; Oats, 1s 8d a 2s; Barley, 2s a 2s 6d; Peas, 2s 6d a 2s 9d; buckwheat 2s a 2s 6d; Rye, 2s 3d a 2s 6d; Flaxseed, 4s a 5s 3d; Potatoes, per bush 2s a 2s 3d; Beans, American, 4s a 5s; Beans, Canada, 6s a 6s 8d; Honey, 4d a 5d; Beef, per lb, 3d a 6d; Mutton, per qr, 2s a 5s; Lamb, 2s 6d a 3s 6; Veal, per qr, 2s 6d a 10s; Pork, per lb, 3d a 4½d; Butter, Fresh, 11d; Butter, Salt, 6d a 7½d; Cheese, 4d a 7½d; Lard, 4d a 7d; Maple Sugar, 4d a 4½d; Eggs, (fresh) per dozen 5d a 6d; Turkeys, (old) per couple 7s 6d a 8s; Turkeys, (young) 4s a 5s 4d; Geese, 3s a 5s; Fowls, 1s 10½d a 2s 3d; Chickens, 1s a 2s. Pigeons, (tame), per brace 7½d; Hares, 9d; Oranges, per box 22s 6d a 25s; Apples, per barrel 10s a 20s; Onions, 2s 9d a 5s; Flour, per quintal 9s 6d a 10s 6d; Oatmeal, 7s a 8s; Beef, per 100 lbs 25s a 27s 6d; Fresh Pork per 100 lbs 25s a 30s; N. B. Fresh Codfish, per lb 4d, Halibut, per lb 4.—*Clerks of Markets.*

BIRTHS.

Montreal—18th ult, Mrs M Samuel, of a son. 23rd ult, Mrs Brebaut, of a daughter.
Goderich—9th ult, Mrs P M'Dougall, of a son.
Guelph—9th ult, Mrs W J Hooper, of a daughter. 13th ult, Mrs F Maroon, of a son.
Huntingdon—18th ult, Mrs Wm Marshall, of a son.
Quebec—13th ult, Mrs Ruston, of a daughter. 20th ult, Ste Anne de la Perade, the wife of J C Hulo, Esq., of a son.
Sherbrooke—24th ult, the wife of A T Galt, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Montreal—16th ult, by the Rev Mr Marling, Mr John Kirkpatrick, Printer, to Miss Ann Somers.
 Quebec—29th April, by the Rev J Spencer, Mr Alfred Watson, to Miss Maria Day. 13th ult, by the same, Mrs Anthony Stephens, to Mrs Ann Benedict.
 Laprairie—23d ult, by the Rev C DeWolfe, AM, Mr John Wright, to Miss Sarah Ann Robinson.
 Picton—15th ult, Thomas Kennedy, Esq, to Miss Mildred Edison.
 River Trent—13th ult, by the Rev William McEwen, A E Thomson, Esq, to Saphrona Maria Strohn.
 Toronto—16th ult, by the Rev A Sanson, J R Nash, Esq, to Caroline Henriette, second daughter of the late J G Nanton, Esq, of St Vincents.

DEATHS.

Montreal—16th ult, aged 13 years, Mary Mason, youngest daughter of the late Colin Robertson, Esq. 20th ult, Elizabeth, wife of Mr J P Davies, formerly of Lake Simcoe, CW. 22nd ult, Mr J Seal, plasterer, a native of Wells, England, aged 47 years. 23rd ult, Robert S M'Indoe, Printer, second son of the late Robt S M'Indoe, aged 19 years. 25th ult, after an illness of four months, Emma Andrews, wife of Mr Wm Kennedy, junr, aged 24 years.
 Brantford—18th ult, after six days' illness, of inflammation of the lungs, Mr Alfred Laycock.
 Chatham, CW—16th ult, son, relict of the deceased Jos Eberts, Esq. Galt—10th ult, Mr Archibald Nicol.
 Glenlyon, Goderich Township—7th ult, Mr P M' Dougall, aged 60 years.
 Hamilton—16th ult, Mr James Brynan.
 Hull—16th ult, Georgiana, eldest daughter of G D Wright, Esq, aged 2 years and three months.
 Quebec—6th ult, Mary, aged fourteen months; and on the 16th, Jas, aged 5 years and two months; children of Mr George Thompson. 22nd ult, after a prolonged illness, at the age of 47 years, Thomas Zouch, Esq, late Capt in the Hon E I Co's 42nd Regiment, Native Infantry, son of the late Richard Zouch, Esq, Treasury, Dublin.
 Sherbrooke—25th ult, after a few hours illness, Elliott Torrance, wife of A T Galt, Esq, aged 21 years.
 Toronto—10th ult, Mrs Ellen Teresa O'Dea, aged 29 years. 17th ult, Jane Anne, wife of A Drummond, Esq, Commercial Bank. 21st ult, Louisa, youngest daughter of Wm Wakelield, Esq, aged 11 years.
 Valley of Sacramento, California—20th Feb, Daniel S Kelly, late of Beamsville, Niagara District, CW.
 Whitechurch—10th ult, Jane Charlotte, wife of James Gamble, Esq, aged 42 years.

TEMPERANCE HOTEL.

THE Subscriber begs leave to acquaint his friends and the Public, that he has opened his new and commodious house on Temperance principles for the accommodation of all that will favour him with their patronage. Good yard, sheds, and stables, attached to the premises. Charges moderate, and strict attention shall be paid to the comfort of customers.

Gentlemen, or families residing in Montreal, and desirous of a Summer country residence, can be furnished with comfortable board and apartments, and as the location is of easy access to the city, by steamboat and railway at trifling cost, commercial gentlemen could leave every morning and return in the evening, giving them all the business part of the day in the city. This can be accomplished with every facility, as the journey is performed within the hour, and a more agreeable and pleasant trip there cannot be.

JNO. McEACHERN.

Chateauguay Basin, 23rd May, 1850.

R. D. WADSWORTH,
YORK-STREET, HAMILTON, C. W.;

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The Watchman, (Toronto,)	do	10 0	do
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Missionary & S. S. Record, Monthly,	do	1 0	do
Ecclesiast. & Miss'ry Record,	do	3 9	do
Sunday School Guardian,	do	2 6	do
Journal of Education,	do	5 0	do
Canadian Agriculturist,	do	5 0	do
Canada Temp. Advocate, Semi-Mo'ly	do	2 6	do

□ N. B.—Mr. W. will visit the Districts west of Young-Street, during the Summer and Autumn of 1850.
 May 8.

IMPORTANT TO TEMPERANCE COMMITTEES,
AND TEETOTALERS GENERALLY.

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE, published fortnightly, price 1s per number, or 2s 6d per year, paid in advance.

The ADVOCATE is the oldest teetotal periodical in the Province, and has from the first taken clear and decided ground on the Temperance question.—Whilst its enunciation of Temperance principles will continue to be of a thorough-going character, the utmost care will be taken to prevent anything appearing in its pages inconsistent with the most enlarged feeling of Christian charity.

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April 8.

ALEXANDER FLECK.

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