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# THE ABSTAINER.

ORGAN OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE  
BOYS OF TEMPERANCE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

M. CRAMP, D.D., } . . . . . Fidelity,--Union--Perseverance. . . . . } JAMES BARNES,  
EDITOR. } PUBLISHER.

VOLUME I. HALIFAX, N.S., JANUARY 15, 1857. NO. 4.

## Essays, &c.

### THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF PROHIBITION.

BY PROFESSOR YEOMANS.  
(Continued.)

It is thus that alcohol becomes a cause of endless evil. By its influence as a material substance upon the material brain, it poisons the fountains of action, so that obliquity of conduct, and every form of debasement, wretchedness and crime are the natural and expected consequences. It is the inveterate foe of the intellectual and moral principle in man. In all its numberless forms, and in every quantity, it is the potent adversary of the mind.—When alcoholic mixtures are drunk, the very first effect that we perceive is a perverted action of the mental faculties. A small quantity does not finish the work, but it begins it. It is the quality of wheat to nourish the body, but a small amount will not completely produce this effect, nor even protect from starvation; still the nature of all wheat, and every grain of it is to nourish and strengthen. So also with Alcohol; a small quantity may not so poison the brain as to overthrow the intellectual fabric; still such are its essential nature and tendency in every form and every drop. Its invading effects upon the mind are not restricted to the employment of excessive quantities; they follow from its common use. There is much said about the inoffensiveness of liquor, when taken in trifling amount, but this is little applicable to general practice. People do not take liquors in infinitesimal doses. They drink them to produce a specific and positive alcoholic effect, and they demand and use enough for the purpose. Whatever may be said about "flavor," "aroma," "fruitiness," "body," "nutriment," or other secondary properties of intoxicating liquors, if alcohol be absent, it is mockery to offer these in substitution. We must bear in mind, that when a small portion of liquor is taken—as a glass of wine—it is not mingled with the mass of the blood and lost in the general system.—This result is forbidden by the law of local affinity. The Alcohol is drawn out of the circulation into the nervous tissue, and the single dose, therefore, ceases to be insignificant though minute, when compared with the whole body, it becomes powerful when concentrated upon a single part. In the quantity, therefore, necessary to produce the agreeable, exhilarating and stimulant effect for which it is used, Alcohol so deranges brain action as to violate the harmony of the mind. The feelings become excited and the temper

irritable, so that the individual is easily "touched" and provoked to acts of impropriety and violence, by causes which under other circumstances, would be unheeded. Long before the speech thickens and the motions falter, there is a firing of irascible passions, which leads to the commission of numberless offences, from two-edged utterances that wound the spirit, to homicidal thrusts that destroy the body.

From the first point of mental dissonance, onward through all the stages of intoxication, mania and madness become more and more clearly developed, until the man disappears and the demon takes his place. The change, as I have already explained, that multiplies his vicious and criminal capacities, it is the universal testimony of those who have had most dealings with the perpetrators of crime—judges, police magistrates, sheriffs, jailors, prison wardens, and others—that four-fifths to nine-tenths of all the crime committed in society is done under the influence of Alcoholic Liquors. In the extent of the mischief and the completeness of the ruin they work upon the human character, these liquids are supereminent among all the discovered products of art or nature. There are other agents besides alcohol, which, when introduced into the human system, exert a special action upon the nervous tissues and brain, and through these upon the mind.—Among such is Opium, which has been compared to Alcohol in its physiological influences; but while it is perhaps equally seductive and insidious, there is this important difference in its effect—alcoholic intoxication has in it far more of violence and malignant passion.

An eminent medical authority, Sir Benjamin Brodie, in a late work (Psychological Researches), says:

"The effect of Opium, when taken into the stomach, is not to stimulate, but to soothe the nervous system. It may be otherwise in some instances, but these are rare exceptions to the general rule. The opium taker is in a passive state, satisfied with his own dreamy condition, while under the influence of the drug. He is useless, but not mischievous.—It is quite otherwise with Alcoholic Liquors. When Bishop and his partner murdered the Italian boy, in order that they might sell his body, it appeared in evidence that they prepared themselves for the task by a plentiful libation of gin. The same course is pursued by housebreakers and others, who engage in desperate criminal undertakings. It is worthy of notice, also, that Opium is much less deleterious to the individual than gin or brandy." In the light of these views, the duty of government becomes evident. Its relation to

those who drink intoxicating liquors is one of direct responsibility and power, and differ from that of voluntary societies or private persons. In urging upon individuals the considerations which should induce them to discontinue drinking, it is proper that we present the case in every aspect, and appeal to various motives. In stating that Alcohol selects the citadel of thought as the main point of attack in the human system, I by no means imply that its injuries are limited to this part. The whole constitution is liable to more or less embroilment and disease, and it is entirely appropriate to lay open to the consideration the details and extent of the harm they are inflicting upon various organs of the system. But with government it is different. It has no business to pry into the minutiae of bodily ailments.—There is a just jealousy of its encroachments into departments of impertinent curiosity. In respect to many things appertaining to the management of the body and which involve the maintenance or loss of health, men will not tolerate interference or dictation. The question for example, how a person will manage his digestive and pulmonary affairs, is a concern of his own, with which government has no right to intermeddle. Beyond general sanitary measures, for the preservation of public health, and protection from causes of contagion, the Legislature has no right of interposition. If, by indulging in a bad quality of diet, or over eating, a man chooses to inflict upon himself stomach or liver disease, or if he so deal with air, clothing, or heat, so as to engender colds, inflammations, lung complaints, and rheumatism, he has the sovereign privilege of so doing without governmental molestation or disturbance. The evil consequences in these cases are presumed to be confined to himself; he can do as he lists with his own. If, in like manner, by the use of Alcohol, a man inflames and ulcerates his stomach, or degenerates his kidneys, or granulates his liver, the matter is purely private, into which the lawmakers have no right of scrutiny, and over which they have no authority of prevention.

But this rule does not apply to man's entire constitution. There is a part of the body in which, as I have stated, government has a legitimate and special concern. It is not a private affair of the individual, and a matter of indifference to society if the human brain be in health or disease. When this organ is in order, the man is capable of contributing his due support to the fabric of Society; but when it works badly, he becomes the victim of headlong and irresistible impulses; he is no longer amenable to the tribunals of Society as a rational being, and government places him under restraint as dangerous to the commu-

nity. That material part, therefore, which is the basis of a man's outward and public relations, is not his private, individual matter, to be managed and dealt with as he likes.—The question of its treatment and condition in any particular case is an affair of vital moment to each and to all. It is emphatically a public concernment. In a certain sense, the brain of man belongs to society. If he adopt any course by which its offices are disturbed or its purposes thwarted, the community is at once affected, and government, in virtue of its very existence, which, so far as the individual is concerned, is annihilated in the subversion of his reason, and in virtue of its high obligations to protect the rights of all, is imperatively and solemnly bound to interfere. The minor derangements of the human body it does not its province to notice; but invasion of the cerebral system, which revolutionize conduct and character, it cannot neglect without flagrant recreancy to its trust.

The right of government to interdict the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage is, therefore, the right to prevent the undermining of its own foundations—the central right of self-defence and self-existence. I have shown that Alcoholic Liquors, by their pre-eminent malignant action upon the brain and mind, tend to disrupt all civil relations. The obedient citizen they transform into a reckless turbulent violator of law; they are thus the natural enemies of government, and should be so treated—the inspirers of lawlessness, their own fate should be outlawry. It is no impertinent or offensive interference with private personal concerns, to interpose authority and prevent a man turning himself into a fool, a maniac, or a criminal. The obligations of government and the individual are reciprocal. Government owes to the individual protection of natural rights; and the individual owes to government obedience to law. If the individual fail in fulfilling his part of the contract, it is the prerogative of government to enforce compliance with it. If the citizen indulge in any habit which, in its nature, tends directly to disqualify him for the just discharge of his civil responsibilities, government has the necessary right to interference to the utmost extent of its power. If the effect of alcohol in the brain be to put a man beside himself, and make him incapable of working out the tasks that belong to his manhood, it is the duty of government to see to it that he does not alcoholize his brain. If the effects of these liquors be, as science demonstrates, and universal experience verifies, so to poison and pervert the springs of conduct that a thousand forms of evil result; if they weaken those sentiments and faculties by the exercise of which man is elevated, and educate and discipline to a more than natural strength the lower propensities by which he is degraded; if they so bind men in the spell of passion as to paralyze all self respect and noble exertion; if they change the man of work and thrift to an idler and vagabond; if they consume to ashes and cinders the affection of the husband and father, and scatter widowhood and orphanage right and left through the community; if they lift the floodgates of every form of vice and demoralization, peopling the lunatic asylums with the insane, the alms-houses with vagrants and paupers; filling the prisons with criminals, and causing the gallows to bend with its burden of malefactors, surely they fall within the legitimate scope of legislative management; and, if government is not a mockery its control over

them must be absolute, and adequate to the demands of the case. Indeed, to remove such obstacles as this to private safety and public prosperity is the very thing that government is for. If its purpose be anything else than to furnish nesting places for mousing demagogues; if it have any other aim than to attend to the collection of money and its disbursement among its own officials: if politics be anything more than a great game to be played at by a few for their own selfish and ambitious ends, and the amusement and excitement of the people; if, on the contrary, government be an instrument for accomplishment of good beyond itself; if it be an institution endowed with full and responsible power to protect the rights and regulate the relations and promote the welfare of its citizens; if politics be truly the vocation of earnest-minded statesmen who seek to address themselves manfully to the problem of human improvement—then does the present question in all its vital bearings, fall within the domain of legislative adjustment.

But it is pure folly to attempt to raise the question of governmental authority in this case. The legislature is driven to action by a necessity that it cannot escape. It has no option, but *must act*. It cannot deal with alcohol as it does water, milk, and the various alimentary substances, leaving them to free public use. Alcohol differs from all these, in such a way, that government is, and always has been, compelled to separate it from them, and make it a subject of special legislation. Its influence over human conduct is an inexorable fact which government can neither deny nor ignore. The question is not really whether it will or will not act, but simply *what kind of action it will take*. It attempted to manage the subject long ago, as the policy of legal license bears witness. Let us see how that method worked:

The license system applied the principle of prohibition to the mass of the people. It forbade ninety-nine in a hundred to deal in alcoholic liquors. Whatever injustice, or oppression, or violation of rights is contained in the principle of prohibition, the bulk of the people experienced many years since. Still, in the case of a few government contradicted the principle which it enforced on the many. All that was offensive in governmental restrictions it inflicted upon the great majority of the citizens, and then crowned the act by opening wide the sluices of the trade, and granting to a favored few monopoly of the profits. But, at the same time that it distinctly affirmed the prohibitory principle, what was the import of its action, or rather *counter-action*, in opening the business to a small number? Governmental license of the sale of intoxicating liquors as beverages is equivalent to governmental consent to their use as such. In permitting, for a consideration, the sale of these liquors, and in demanding what it assumes can be obtained—men of proper moral character to engage in the business—government sanctions the purposes for which the sale is made, and thus endorses, legally and morally, the habit of drinking. Now habits of drinking naturally lead to habits of intoxication. Fermented liquors long since vindicated their claims to the title of *intoxicating liquors*. The use of these stimulants naturally grows upon men, in very numerous cases it overmasters them. Government, therefore, in extending to the traffic in alcoholic liquors its specific sanction, endorses its legitimate consequences—drink-

ing, intication, moral vitiation, and subversion of reason. Pliny said, seventeen hundred years ago, of wine, "it is a liquor which deprives man of the use of his reason, renders him furious, and is the cause of an infinite variety of crimes." The license system makes provision for the unrestricted supply, to all who desire them, of substances which are characterized by such effects. If it thus consent to these effects, is it not, therefore, responsible for them?

Government through its license policy, says to the citizen: "You want liquor to drink—we believe you should have it for this purpose and accordingly qualify a retailer, who will furnish it. We provide the means for you to supply yourself with intoxicating drinks in a legal way, and of a 'good moral dealer.' The citizen drinks: he drinks for pleasure, exhilaration and excitement, and for no other purpose. But the alcohol works its natural effect—intoxicates, and makes him furious and in a drunken paroxysm he takes the life of another. He is arraigned for murder, and pleads innocence before the judge. He says: "I am guiltless of that which alone constitutes the essence of crime—the evil *intention*, the *malice prepense*. Killing is not murder, it must be preceded by the proved murderous intent. There is and can be no other measure of crime than criminality of purpose. I did not deliberately plan the deed, and I bore no malice to the deceased. Of the transaction I have no recollection; the violence must have been committed during the frenzy of intoxication. Alienation of mind impairs responsibility; I plead innocence on the ground of insanity." Now, what is government to do?

The course which it is justified in adopting in reference to the accused depends upon the relation which it assumed towards him at the outset. If it sanctioned the act which led to the crime, it has no right to complain of the crime itself. If it approved the initiatory step it cannot justly condemn its consequences. If it consented to, and made provision for drinking which is universally admitted to cause three-fourths of all the crime perpetrated in society, it necessarily becomes accessory to that crime. If it invited its prisoners to the act, which resulted in a breach of law, it can have no semblance of a light to convict him. And yet government, through its judge replies to the prisoner as follows: "You cannot be allowed to plead insanity in extenuation of your crime for that condition was voluntarily brought on. It would be a dangerous doctrine to excuse you on such ground, as every culprit would plead intoxication in apology for overt acts. You had no business to be under the influence of alcohol. The court holds that drunkenness is in itself a crime, and he who alleges it as an excuse attempts to take advantage of his own wrong; you are to be held accountable for all acts in that state; you see to what Intemperance has brought you." Such is the distinct ground upon which the prisoner is convicted, and such substantially the language held toward him by the court. The fact of insanity is not denied, nor that the crime was committed under its influence. The state of mind at the time the deed was done is thrown out of the question, and the whole guilt is made to consist in the act which produced intoxication.—The man is tried, convicted, condemned and executed for the crime of intoxication; while in another case, if criminal violence do not chance to result from the inebriated condition, it is passed by as innocent. But if such awful

results are liable to flow from this state, has government any right to palter, and shuffle, and play fast and loose concerning it? adopting a sliding scale of right and wrong which is made to depend on accidental consequences? Employing drunken officials to try and hang an unfortunate wretch for the crime of drunkenness, and actually enticing its citizens to mortal risks; inciting them to gamble with life and death, time and eternity; through the licensed liquor cup? Government tells the culprit at the bar that drinking is crime, but as it was licensed drinking was it not therefore licensed crime? Did not the convict procure the crime-inciter at the place which government had provided to dispense it? Did government teach the criminality of drinking when it employed and empowered good "moral men" to furnish the liquor? Did not the license system directly provide for that crime, lure to it, in a high sense, legalize it? Did government not sow the seed and then repudiate the fruit? By what right can it extend its sanction to the opening of a rum-shop, divide the profits with its manager, and then hang a man for the natural consequences of putting the establishment to the use for which it was designed?

I have assumed a case to make clear the principle, but it is hardly fiction. Such exact words may not pass between judge and culprit, but instances are continually arising in the court where the facts would abundantly warrant the language. John Burnet and George Sornberger, of Schoharie, left the tavern of Solomon Pratt, drunk. In this state Burnet killed Sornberger, and was tried and executed. Michael Sanford, counsel for the defence, said on the trial:

"The traffic in rum produced this unhappy result; hastened Sornberger unwarned to the tribunal of his Maker, deprived his wife of her chosen companion, his children of their earthly protector, and brought this prisoner, if he be executed, to an untimely death. It is an unrighteous law that commissions one class of men to deal out to another class an agent to produce crime, while at the same time it provides prisons and affixes penalties to punish all such offences. I hate this law, and its miserable effects have led me for twenty years past to raise my voice in behalf of temperance. These landlords (commissioned by government) are themselves responsible for the crime of their victims, and if their little burning hells were shut up, man might go to heaven."

How to deal with crime committed under the influence of intoxication, has long been a thorny problem for jurists. But the difficulty of government has chiefly sprung from its double policy towards the agent which caused intoxication. It has uttered one language to the community, through the license system, and another from the bench through its criminal jurisprudence, which necessarily involved it in inextricable self-contradiction. There is but one way in which it can relieve itself from complicity in this matter, and stand in a just and irrefragable relation to the crime, suffering, and multifarious evil which alcohol engenders; and that is by exerting its utmost power and bringing all the influence it possesses to bear against the drinking practice. All earnest blows must be struck at this point or nowhere. If government really desires to abate the evils of intemperance, let it prohibit their cause. If it would stand with clean hands to judge those who have gone into wrong courses through the agency of liquor, it must

take an attitude of resolute and unyielding hostility to the system by which liquor is furnished. It has no more right to license this cause of crime than it has to sell indulgences for the commission of theft, robbery, or perjury. The only just thing possible for government, is to prohibit this cause of crime, as thoroughly as it prohibits other crimes and their causes. If it be said that such legislation will be ineffectual, I reply, it may be violated, but it will not be inoperative. Men break the laws against fraud and murder, but that does not prove such laws nugatory, and is no reason for abrogating them and opening the doors of license to these crimes. Some men, perhaps, will drink in spite of all law, but many will be restrained, and the government will stand clear and blameless. The law may indeed be broken, but its violation will be an act committed in the exercise of responsible reason, for which the violator may be held to rigorous and righteous account. It is lamentably too true that there are men, who, in spite of all constraint are bound to perdition; but for one, I decidedly object to their being ticketed through by government.

It is vain to urge that government lends its sanction only to the moderate employment of alcoholic beverages and reprobates their excessive use. This is impossible. Government cannot fix the magic line up to which indulgence is safe and commendable, and beyond which it is dangerous and to be prohibited. Government must either consent to the habit through all its imperceptible degrees of growth, or it must entirely interdict it. In this case the beginning is everything. Put out your shoot in the soil, and the forces of nature will take care that it becomes a tree. Start your drinking habit, and the laws of nature will see to it that it shall grow and bear fruit after its kind. It is preposterous to attempt a defence of government by saying that it only justifies a commencement of drinking practices. As well might the culprit on trial for arson plead innocence on the ground that he did not burn the dwelling, but only fired a train of combustibles that led to it.

The light which science casts upon the nature and power of the appetite for alcoholic liquors, should affect the policy of legislation. It is a law of the constitution that any mode of activity which has once been strongly impressed on an organ or part, has a tendency to perpetuate itself. Thus a scar left after the healing of a wound, grows and assimilates nutritive material exactly as do the healthy neighbouring parts; so that a scar which a child might have said to be as long as its finger, will be as long as his finger when he becomes a man. "When the mode of nutrition in any part has been altered by disease there is frequently an obstinate tendency to the perpetuation of the same alteration; or, if the healthy action be for the time restored, there is a peculiar tendency to the renewal of the morbid process in the part; and this is stronger the more frequently it occurs, until at last it becomes inveterately established."

Now, in conformity with this physiological law, there can be no doubt that the frequent presence of Alcohol in the brain so modifies the nutrition of the organ as to lay the foundation of a morbid requirement in the cerebral structure itself, while the brain, as it were grows to that state of mind which the poison induces. The demand for Alcohol thus becomes entrenched in the tendencies of organic reproduction. Dr Ray, in his excellent

work, "The Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity," remarks:

"Obviously, as those pathological changes (of the brain) are the effect of a long continued voluntary habit, there is strong evidence in favor of the idea that they in turn become efficient causes, and act powerfully in maintaining this habit even in spite of the resistance of the will. So deplorably common has drunkenness become in this country that there are few who have not seen the melancholy spectacle of the most powerful motives, the most solemn promises and resolutions, a constant sense of shame and danger, bodily pain and chastisement, the prayers and supplications of friendship, of as little avail in reforming the drunkard as they would be in averting an attack of fever or consumption. With a full knowledge of the dreadful consequences to fortune, character, and family, he plunges on in his mad career, deploring it may be, with unutterable agony of spirit the resistless impulse by which he is mastered."

Undoubtedly many have been reclaimed from intoxicating courses by influences powerfully applied to the judgment and conscience, but how small the proportion compared with those upon whom such influences have proved ineffectual! For twenty-five years the civilized world has been plied with proofs of the injurious effects of alcoholic liquors. The press has flashed its omnipresent light into all minds until the consent to temperance doctrines is universal. But what avails these world-wide theoretic admissions of truth so long as they are perpetually contradicted in practice? Anthems of praise rise everywhere to abstinence and sobriety; but look at the statistics of the consumption of liquor! Men's judgments are right, but they are trampled in the dust by triumphant and unrestrained and unchallenged passion. We remonstrate, but the candid reply to us, as one *dul* reply: "My good friends, your remarks are just; they are indeed too true, but I can no longer resist temptation. If a bottle of brandy stood at one side, and the pit of hell yawned at the other, and I were convinced that I should be pushed in as soon as I took one glass, I could not refrain." These considerations explain to us how it is that great numbers of persons who are enslaved to the habit, who know full well its evils, but have lost all power of voluntary escape, regard an effective prohibitory law as their only chance of liberation. They know that where liquor is to be readily procured they cannot abstain, and they therefore ask not to be led into temptation. Persuasives may win the promise of reform and the pledge of abstinence, but they cannot confer the power of fulfilment. Experience has shown that however powerful may be the moral considerations which are brought to bear upon the intemperate, and however completely they may command assent, so long as liquors are universally exposed for sale, good resolutions avail little; men will drink them. The prohibitory policy therefore, in aiming to put the cause of temptation out of the way and out of the reach of the victims of appetite is grounded in wisdom and resorts to the most rational method possible to protect society from the injurious effects of drinking.

But it is time this long communication were closed though it is yet but the barest skeleton of a discussion which tempted to fuller exposition at every point. The questions it involves are of a very high order of interest. We begin with a liquid in a cup,

and crossing that mysterious line where the spiritual is linked on to the material, we are carried to psychological revolutions and State policy. It is the business of science to trace the chain of cause and effect by which these are connected and I think I have shown that something has been done in this direction. It is demonstrated that alcoholic liquors, in their influence upon man, have a marked individuality, are endowed with peculiar and remarkable properties, unlike any other substance which nature furnishes, or art has revealed, and which require, therefore, to be dealt with on the basis of their own distinctive and essential character; that by the perversions of thought, passion, and conduct, which it is their inherent nature to produce, they thwart the fundamental purpose of Government, and thus become the legitimate objects of legislative control, and that their grasp of character is relentless—their hold upon the constitution so profound that society can only protect itself by the most authoritative and determined expression of its will in the form of stringent and effective laws.

Hoping that what has been said may prove acceptable, and that your earnest and laborious endeavours to educate the public mind upon this important question may be crowned with final and complete success, I remain,

Very respectfully and truly yours,  
EDWARD L. YOUMANS.

Brooklyn, October 14, 1855,  
E. C. DELAVAN, Esq.,

### THE RUM BILL.

Dr. Marsh, Secretary of the American Temperance Union, gives an account in his Journal of a plain farmer who arose in a Temperance meeting and said, that as he was one day going to his work, an officious sort of a man overhauled him, exclaiming—"Mister—, Mister—, I have a bill against you!"

"Against me," was the reply, "I guess you are mistaken, this time; I owe you nothing."

"Oh, it is not my bill," said the man, "I am a tax collector. It is a tax bill."

"Yes," said the Collector, "if you have a mind to understand it so; and about half I call on are of this opinion, they mutter terribly about the rum taxes,—the number of lazy drunken fellows in the poor-house, and the criminals taken up every day, making an enormous cost to the country; and I believe if it wasn't for the rum shops the taxes would not be one quarter as heavy as they are: you have given it about the right name—a RUM BILL, only I should not like to have the name of a Rum Bill Collector."

On saying this he sat down; but it proved a most effective speech, for others took up the thought, and the Rum bill assailed upon Temperance men, was not lost sight of to the close of the meeting. Indeed the idea that a Temperance man, should be met with a demand which could only appropriately be made of a drunkard, "I have a rum bill against you," and be compelled to submit to it, and pay it! while it was at first quite ludicrous, soon excited burning indignation, and words were wanting to express the strength of a demand, and that immediately, for a Maine Law.

Taking up the thought, the Doctor says: Would that we could traverse the State, and show every hard-working man the amount of his rum bill,—that we could sit down by the shoemaker, working day and night to pay his

rent, and support his little family, and ask him, "How much was his rum bill?" and meet the reply.

Very well, sir, but you pay a rum bill. What were your taxes last year?

"Sixteen dollars, twenty-five cents."

"Very well, sir, ten dollars and eighty-four cents of that was your rum bill."

—By the blacksmith "Sir, you swing the hammer by day and by night, in summer and winter. Hard way to get a living! pray, sir, how much is your rum bill?"

"Rum bill! don't insult me, never a drop comes into my shop."

"That may be, sir, but you pay a heavy rum bill; and it won't be any less when these drunken fellows, who I see hang around your furnace, get with their families, into the poor-house."

—By the Hard-working, thrifty farmer. Sir you've a fine farm, will you not set apart a lot for the Missionary or Bible cause?"

"I would, if I could, sir, but it requires all I can raise to support my family."

"Sir, you are now devoting the produce of your best lot to a worse purpose."

"I am, sir? what do you mean?"

"I mean? to pay your rum bill."

"Sir you're mistaken in your man. Rum used to cost me twenty and thirty dollars in buying and harvesting, but I have not paid a rum bill these six years."

"Have not? what were your taxes the last year?"

"Over forty dollars."

"Well, two-thirds of that was a rum bill.

The pauper tax of the State of New York in 1849, according to the Legislative reports, was \$817,422; of this \$670,173 was set down to Intemperance, and you had to pay your part of it. Now go for a Maine Law, and you may have nearly the whole of the produce of your farm for yourself and children."

"We might, he proceeds, as we met a rich wine-drinker, and began to inquire about his rum bill, he told it was none of our business; and as we would lead him on to confess that the burdens of taxation were heavy, he would say, it is all fanaticism to trace it to intemperance." He would tell us how the worst criminals that fill our jails are often teetotalers, to execute their purposes and escape detection, and how poverty is from the hand of God; and repeat the words which he has somewhere heard as coming from the Bible: "The poor ye have always with you." It is not intemperance that makes them poor, but the hard times, or they are born poor; and we might have to leave him without making any impression. "Wine is a mocker," and it may mock him until, in addition to his other taxes, he may have to support a drunken son and his little family.

Passing on, we might meet a sagacious lawyer, who would say to us as one said to Rev. T. P. Hunt, "Sir, intemperance never hurts me, and I do not know that it increases my taxes"—but who, the same day, was upset in a stage by a drunken driver, had a leg broken and was laid aside three months from his business, with a heavy rum bill to pay into the bargain.

A conservative divine might say to us, "Sir, the Gospel will reform the world." "True it will," we would reply, and we intend under God it shall, but the way of the Lord must be prepared and the Church must husband her means. Pray sir, what is the Rum bill of the Church? A significant question—for even if she drinks nothing herself, yet an enormous

tax she has to pay for what others drink; or rather for the pauperism and crime which they occasion—more than she lavishes upon all her religious establishments; means enough shortly to fill the world with Bibles and the Blessed Gospel. Will you take it, sir, into serious consideration? As we proceeded, we should not want attentive listeners and anxious inquirers.

Once the whole country was roused to arms by a tax on tea, which the powers that were had no right to levy. A sensible writer computes that for every \$1,000 profit which a dealer makes on the sale of intoxicating drinks, the community are taxed between \$6,000 and \$8,000 to support the pauperism and crime, consequent on the quantity sold to yield this profit, and asks, "Why the virtuous and industrious portions of society should be thus exorbitantly taxed to enable the rum-seller to gratify his avarice?"

A large railroad proprietor and director who opposed the exclusion from office on the road all who used ardent spirits, was through the bewilderment of a drinking-switch-fender mulcted as his share in the damages about five hundred dollars. And a large owner in Fire Insurance Stock, who thought much of wine, had the satisfaction of losing a great part of his stock through an extensive fire caused by a drunken woman. And a ship-owner, who was fond of a certain jovial companion in his Captain, not long since had the comfort of hearing of the loss of his fine ship through the drunkenness of that captain—all rather heavy rum bills to pay.

The people of Maine are learning useful lessons on this subject. In a farming town of 2,100 inhabitants, there were eighteen dram shops. All were stopped by the new law and their pauper tax, which the year previous was \$1,100 was reduced to \$300.—The inhabitants met; they had by their operation cleared \$800 and, they, resolved to add 600 to their school fund and keep \$200 to empty any other barrels that might come in. Property there is valued every year, and tax in some measure regulates the valuation. The value therefore had nearly redoubled since the destruction of the dram shops, and the people will be slow to return to the old system of taxpaying. The amount of money expended by the Portland people for rum, annually, before the Maine Law, in three hundred grog-shops, was \$328,500! That was the rum tax of the city. At the same time, the school tax is only \$20,000; the tax for streets and sidewalks \$20,000; and the whole tax for corporate expenses only about \$100,000—but the rum tax was \$328,500.

It is time the nation was awakened to a full contemplation of this subject, to say nothing of the far greater evils of the traffic (this is not to be spoken of beside them—the nation could well afford to pay double of what they now do for rum bills, if they could buy off the horrid physical and moral evils of the business); yet, since men will value a dollar in their purse more than they will the life of a neighbour, or the happiness of a dozen souls, let this argument be carried home to them in all its strength. Let them be made to feel, all over the land, that if the rum traffic were to be extirpated in every State as it is in Maine, they would be relieved from two-thirds, aye, three-fourths of all the taxation under which they now suffer and groan. We have just seen a statement from Livingston county, from which it appears that, ac-

ording to the Report of the Supervisors, there was paid in the county in 1852, for the support of pauperism and crime \$18,743 67, and that of this \$14,017 76 was for the direct results of Intemperance.

### FATHER MATTHEW.

Another champion is gone! On Monday, Dec. 8th 1856, the Rev Theobald Matthew closed his useful career. For some time past he had been compelled to cease from active labour. A visit to the Island of Madeira was advised, as likely to restore health and strength, but the hope proved delusive, and the venerable man returned to his native land. He took up his residence at Queenstown, Cork, where he died. The following sketch is from the pen of William Howitt, well known as a poet and an author.

"He was a member of an ancient Welsh family, said to be descended from the Kings of Cardigan in the fabulous days of early Cambrian genealogy. His ancestors had settled in Ireland some 250 years ago, and by marriage, or by some other means, had acquired a large portion of the property and estates belonging to the Duke of Ormonde. Father Theobald Matthew was born at Thomastown, county Tipperary, Oct. 10. 1800, and being left an orphan while still a child, was brought up by a distant relative, the late Lady Elizabeth Matthew, only surviving sister of the last Earl of Llandaff, which title became extinct about twenty years ago. By her he was sent to a provincial school in the south of Ireland, and afterwards to St Patrick's College, Maynooth. Having been ordained to the Roman Catholic priesthood, he spent a year or two at Kilkenny, and afterwards settled at Cork, where he carried on the work of a priest with great labour and zeal, and gained popularity far and wide by his indefatigable exertions in the cause of the poor and the fatherless, to whose temporal and spiritual wants he ministered alike. He also built a magnificent church at Cork, at the cost, it is said, of £150,000, and bought the City Botanical-gardens, which he converted into a cemetery, where he buried the poor of Cork without fee or reward. The great and crying vice of the Irish at this time, was that degrading habit of drunkenness, and so far had this vice extended in the southern and western parts of the sister isle, that the Mayor of Limerick, on one occasion, declared that nearly 80 out of 150 suicides within the past year had been traceable to intoxication. Some members of the Society of Friends were the first who endeavoured to mend this state of things, so far as concerned the city of Cork. Finding, however, that they made but little or no progress in arresting the march of drunkenness, early in the year 1838 they applied to Father Matthew for his advice and assistance. Setting aside his own peculiar views and opinions as a Roman Catholic priest, he readily joined his Protestant friends, and threw himself heart and soul into the work of forming a Temperance or Total Abstinence Association. For a year and a-half he found that his efforts made but little way; when suddenly the conversion of some notorious drunkards in Cork spread far and wide his fame among the excitable and enthusiastic people of Cork, Kerry, and Limerick. By the close of the summer, 1839, the

agitation began to spread, and during that autumn, in his progress through Ireland, Father Matthew had the happiness of witnessing the success of his efforts, several hundred thousand of his countrymen having taken the pledge at his hands. In 1844 he visited England, and was received with proportionate enthusiasm in London and several of the manufacturing towns, more especially in Liverpool, where he counted his converts by thousands. The death of his early friend and patroness, Lady Elizabeth Matthew, which happened in 1842, deprived him of a great portion of his resources, inasmuch as she bequeathed her property, a considerable portion of which had been, up to that time, at his disposal, to a foreigner and an utter stranger. It is but fair to add, that by his advocacy of the total abstinence cause, Father Mathew not only brought to ruin his brother, who owned a large distillery in the south of Ireland, but also what remained of his own patrimony, thus showing the disinterested character of his crusade against intoxicating drinks. A pension of two or three hundred a-year, settled on him a few years since by her Majesty, shows how deeply the good that Father Mathew wrought among the lower classes of the Irish poor was felt and appreciated by her Majesty and the members of her Government."

In an account of the funeral, the *Cork Examiner* says:—

"The streets of the city and the roads leading to the cemetery were lined by thousands of anxious spectators, and as the head of the procession slowly appeared in sight a like anxiety and excitement were exhibited to obtain a glimpse of the coffin of one who, in town and country, had won the dearest affections of the people. For hours before the procession left the chapel the graveyard was being rapidly filled, and when the *cortege* entered the cemetery, there could not positively have been less than from 40,000 to 50,000 persons present. Every alley and avenue of this beautiful burial-ground was filled with the people, and as the coffin was borne into the yard every head was uncovered, and many a face was suffused with tears."

### HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE. PRESENTATION OF PLATE TO THE HON. M. CAMERON 9TH OCTOBER, 1856.

The Committee upon whom had devolved the task of providing a Testimonial to the Honorable Malcolm Cameron, availed themselves of his presence in Quebec on the evening of the above day, to carry out the intentions of the subscribers to the fund raised.—The articles presented are, a beautiful table-plated Coffee Urn, manufactured purposely in England, bearing the following inscription;

PRESENTED  
to the

HONORABLE MALCOLM CAMERON,  
by the Temperance Societies of Canada,  
as a small token of their appreciation  
of his services in the cause of Total  
Abstinence from all Intoxicating Drinks,  
for upwards of 20 years.  
Quebec, 1856.

And a very handsome Water Kettle and Stand, more directly the Quebec share of the testimonial. The two articles are valued at \$250.

The Temperance Lecture Hall was well filled, the audience highly respectable; un-

numerous friends of "the guest of the occasion" were present, and the Sons in regalia, with the neat decorations of the Hall, rendered the whole scene truly interesting.

The Rev W. B. Clark, of the Free Church, presided. After addresses by Dr Marsden, Mr Healy, and Rev D. Marsh, the Chairman presented the Testimonial, accompanying the presentation with some very appropriate remarks.

We give the substance of Mr Cameron's reply.

Those only who have been loaded with undeserved kindness, and have had their efforts over-rated by partial friends, can feel as I do upon this occasion. The beautiful gift just presented to me in so handsome a manner by yourself, is one of which any man might well be proud, no matter what services he might have rendered to his country or society. How, then, must I feel in receiving it for having done but a common duty in a very common way, and by the performance of which I have always received very uncommon advantages. This I am not ashamed to say, that I have been an unflinching advocate of Temperance for twenty-three years. I have never failed, I never doubted the propriety, nay, the duty of my course; and I have, as you all know, been placed in many circumstances of what is thought trial and temptation. The Cholera season—visiting and administering to the sick—the Cholera itself, attended by Dr Stewart, of Kingston, who desired me to take brandy, when in most excruciating cramps, and I refused, well satisfied the remedy was a fallacy! In fatigue and hardships on rafts in rapids and ice—in which circumstances I have ever had the best evidences that the idea, that intoxicating drinks will enable men to endure fatigue, is a mistake—let any man testify who has seen a body of men work in cold water and ice, if it was not a kind of barometer,—an exact test of how much men drank. The cold water man standing it without injury, the moderate drinker feeling cold, and requiring renewed drafts, the hard case or drunkard shivering like a dog. I have travelled in the coldest weather in all parts of Canada, and in the wettest in Scotland and England, never have resorted to either beer, cider or wine, or so much as thought of spirits, well aware that by taking them I would reduce the internal heat, and suffer if I did. Try an experiment with a thermometer, put the ball in your mouth on a cold day; then take a glass of brandy, and apply the thermometer again, and you will find the silver go down 8 or 10 degrees; renew the experiment in the dog days, and it will rise. But, my friends, physical trials are but trifles compared to the mental. A man may brave the snows of Russia, may ascend Mount Blanc, or cross the Continent on snow shoes to the Hudson Bay, kill his grizzly bear, the Bengal tiger, or even an African lion, who nevertheless becomes an arrant coward before the frown of a flirt or the leader of fashion. A man may feel his duty to his fellow-man, his interest for himself and family, his obligations to his God; induce him, yea and compel him to join our ranks, and while he is in a certain position maintains its requirements with dignity and consistency; but advance him in society, take him from where he leads or rules a little circle, and place him in a position of honor in church or state, and his weak little fluttering soul feels at once its imbecility; it must succumb to

fashion, it must imitate the herd; it cannot be odd, and the wine cup must grace the board from which the courtly set would withdraw, if it was omitted. The man cannot bear to be thought mean or vulgar, and his coward soul deserts the post of duty, the mission of benevolence, the call of God, and "follows the multitude to do evil."

My friends these temptations I have felt; my family have felt the consequences of daring to differ on this all but universal question of "the bee society," but I am proud to say, we never yielded.

My daughter will be 21 years of age on the 15th of November, and she never saw intoxicating drinks on my table, and by the blessing of God sustaining me, I am resolved she never shall.

I have passed through trials of mind and body, and the ordinary vicissitudes of life, and I contend that to persons in health stimulants are not only never necessary, but always injurious. I contend that men who labour more endure more reverse of fortune—play more sing more, dance more, if these were necessary, than those who stimulate. But if you turn to what is man's true dignity and duty then will not all admit that man can read God's word better, attend his service better labor in every holy vocation, and pray better when his mind is free and unexcited, than when under the very slightest degree of excitement. Oh! my friends, I am as fond of mirth, amusement, and exercise, as any among you, but to enjoy these fully you should be **TEETOTALERS!**—Many fancy the Main Law is a failure, temperance organizations upset, and the whole fanaticism exploded, but let me assure you it is not the case. The cause of temperance is the cause of truth and of God. Arising out of "the necessities of the case" and while there is a benevolent heart, as there must ever be where there are Christians, men will begin where the movement first begun and work for a revival of its principles and influence.—*Abridged from the Canada Temperance Advocate.*

## Poetry.

### TRY AGAIN.

There is always something in the breast,  
Which whispers clear and plain,  
"There's work to do; why idly rest?  
Up, Up, and try again."

There's magic in these little words,  
Which have a greater power  
Than levelled guns, or flashing swords,  
In danger's darkest hour:  
And when they're used to prompt the right;  
To soothe the distress and pain,  
They bear a tone of glorious might—  
"Up, up, and try again!"

The little flower which lifts its head  
Up to the sunlit sky,  
Bowed down beneath the heavy tread,  
Does not lie there and die;  
There is a voice, borne by the winds,  
Which vibrates o'er the plain,  
And says, unheard by passing hinds,  
"Up, up, and try again."

The student, poring o'er his books,  
By the dim midnight oil,  
With wearied eyes and baggard looks,  
Fails, but renews his toil;

The man of science, searching out  
Great truth, with throbbing brain,  
Says, 'mid confusion dark, and doubt  
"Up, up, and try again!"

And that should be the watchword cry  
Of all the good and wise,  
Together banded, sworn to dry  
The mourner's weeping eyes;  
To set up Love and earnest Work  
Where Vice and Sloth now reign;  
Though long they toil, still let them cry—  
"We'll conquer—Try again!"

### WE BLOOM AMID THE SNOW

The following lines were read and presented to Mr. Somarville, on the occasion referred to in another part of our columns. They were  
WRITTEN FOR THE OCCASION BY J. G.

Around the cheerful festive board,  
We gladly welcome you,  
To share a social hour and give,  
A warm, heartfelt adieu.  
Life is a thorny path at best;  
Yet in this world of woe,  
Are hearts, that like the Mayflower,  
Doth "bloom amid the snow."

Farewell! and mark thy future path.  
A path of pleasure prove,  
Accompanied with Purity,  
Fidelity, and Love.  
Tho' you may travel far and wide—  
We hope, where'er you go,  
You'll ne'er forget the Mayflower  
That "blooms amid the snow."

At parting, how the heart is rung,  
What heart can better tell,  
Than when a brother's faltering tongue  
Breathes out that word—*farewell.*  
Farewell! should wintry tempests howl,  
A brother's heart, *you know,*  
Is like the beauteous Mayflower  
That "blooms amid the snow."

Adieu! but yet we hope to meet  
Upon that happy shore,  
Where parting hours can never come,  
And farewells are no more.  
Where fairest flowers, (whose rich perfume  
Through endless seasons glow,  
'Neath brighter skies,) shall ever bloom;  
But *not amid the snow.*

Where charity shall ever reign,  
And friendship be sincere;  
And Time, himself, be swallowed up,  
In one eternal year!  
Thus, brother may we *there* complete,  
This work, begun below;  
A faithful band! may we be found  
Pure as the spotless snow.

## Review.

AN ARGUMENT, LEGAL AND HISTORICAL,  
FOR THE LEGISLATIVE PROHIBITION  
OF THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC: By Dr.  
Frederick Richard Lees. The Essay  
to which the Alliance first prize of one  
hundred guineas was awarded. Lon-  
don: 12 mo., pp. 318.

(Concluded.)

In the fourth chapter Dr. Lees shows that the Liquor Traffic is indefensible on the score of benefit to the country, or

addition to the revenue. Here again, crowds of facts are adduced in evidence. The revenue question was discussed in Nova Scotia, and the opponents of Prohibition took this ground, that we should lose £24,000 a year, the amount of revenue derived from intoxicating liquors, in consequence of which the railroad works would have to be stopped! That was all *bosh*, as every sensible man confessed—but it served the purpose. It mystified the weak minded and frightened the timid, and furnished time-servers with an excuse for breaking promises. All thinking persons agree in opinion that the suppression of the liquor traffic would be followed by such an increased expenditure for necessary and useful articles, and such a diminution of charges for police establishments, criminals and pauperism, that the advantage to the country would be inconceivable. This opinion is confirmed by an appeal to history. In times of scarcity the distilleries have been stopped, and what has been the result? Mr. Colquhoun, in his *Treatise on the Police of London*, says:—

"It is a curious and important fact, that during the period when the distilleries were stopped, in 1796-7, though bread and every necessary of life were considerably higher than during the preceding year, the poor were apparently more comfortable—paid their rents more regularly, and were better fed than at any period for some years before, even though they had not the benefit of the extensive charities which were distributed in 1795. This can only be accounted for by their being denied the indulgence of gin, which had become in a great measure inaccessible from its very high price. It may be fairly concluded that the money formerly spent in this imprudent manner had been applied in the purchase of provisions and other necessaries, to the amount of some £100,000. The effect of their being deprived of this baneful liquor was also evident in their more orderly conduct; quarrels and assaults were less frequent, and they resorted seldom to the pawnbroker's shop; and yet, during the chief part of this period, bread was 15d. the quarter loaf; meat higher than the preceding year, particularly pork, which arose in part from the stoppage of the distilleries, but chiefly from the scarcity of grain."

Dr. Lees remarks respecting Ireland: "On reference to the Tables of Imports into Ireland, and a comparison of the years of the stoppage of the distilleries, and the consequent comparative sobriety of the nation, with the years when they were in full activity, destroying food and demoralizing the people, we arrive at the startling anomaly, that a year of scarcity, with prohibition, is better than a year of plenty without it! The years 1809-10 and 1813-14 were seasons of

scarcity, and the distilleries were stopped. The average consumption of spirits in 1811-12 and 1815-17, was 7½ millions of gallons; in the other years, not quite 4½. But mark how the saved 3½ millions re-appears in the form of an increase of the following articles of comfort, which bespeak not simply the absence of a great curse, but the presence of domestic and personal happiness, and of a thriving trade.

TABLE OF IMPORTS.

Extracted and averaged from returns made to Parliament, 1822.

Famine years, 1809-10-13-14.		Year of Plenty, 1811-12-15-17.	
Haberdashery,	£140,936	£110,936	£30,000 decrease
Drapery,	3,778,514	2,422,414	1,356,071
Hard ware,	667,009	£327,458	£129,651
Blankets,	60,004	26,603	33,401
Cotton Goods,	197,198	£104,198	£93,000
Tea,	536,643	3,189,132	3+1 511
Sugar,	351,278	306,984	74 324
	value	yards	number
	value	value	value
	number	value	value
	pounds	pounds	cwts

In addition, therefore, to the saving of disorder, crime, disease and pauperism, and all their cost, it is clear that even the Excise was greatly benefitted by the increased consumption of other excisable articles. What is true of Ireland in particular must be true of the Empire at large. This may be illustrated from the fact, that while the actual decrease in the consumption of spirits, wine and beer, in the year 1850 as compared with the year 1836, was 524,932 gallons, the increase in the consumption of coffee, tea, and cocoa, in 1850 over 1836, was 26,735,914 lbs. Hence, what is lost to the Excise in one way is made up in another. This is confirmed by the fact, that in the year of Father Matthew's greatest Temperance triumphs in Ireland, while the revenue from whiskey was vastly reduced, the total revenue had increased £80,000 above its average, besides saving much cost in collection.—p. 113.

The fifth position is, that the suppression of the Liquor Traffic is perfectly compatible with rational liberty, and with all the claims of justice and legitimate commerce. We can only find room for the closing paragraph of the chapter:—

“A Maine Law, instead of crippling our commerce or injuring legitimate trade, would not only send our tempe-

rance vessels with augmented safety and diminished risk to their destined ports, but multiply their number and increase their profits beyond all parallel; and Britain would not simply maintain her old position amongst the commercial nations of the world, but attain to a higher destiny, and wield a purer influence, than the most ardent of her patriotic sons has ever dreamed for her. Even the *Times*, in its intermittent fits of wisdom, can perceive the prodigious importance of liquor abolition to a country. Here is one of its happiest dicta:—“No way so rapid to increase the wealth of nations, and the morality of society, as the utter annihilation of the manufacture of ardent spirits, constituting, as they do, an infinite waste and an unmixed evil. This corollary is clear—No way so rapid to decrease the wealth of nations as the encouragement of the traffic.”—p. 135.

Chapter six takes up the argument that prohibition “would be highly conducive to the development of a progressive civilization.” In discussing this topic, Dr. Lees enters on a lengthened induction of particulars, in order to demonstrate the necessity of interference. He proves that extensive drunkenness is the natural fruit of the liquor traffic—and that drunkenness produces poverty—ignorance—prostitution (the array of facts under this head is perfectly horrible)—accidents—disease—idiocy—madness—offences and crimes. In reference to these last, he produces the testimony of public journals, statesmen, chaplains and governors of prisons, magistrates, grand juries, sheriffs, recorders, and judges. There is one unvaried verdict.

In the seventh chapter an account is given of the enactment of the Maine Law—its adoption by various States of the Union, and its effects. The progress of the controversy in the North American colonies is sketched. We find the following reference to Nova Scotia:—

“In Nova Scotia a Prohibitory Liquor Bill is steadily demanded from the Legislature. In 1855 such a Bill was introduced and carried through the House of Assembly, the second reading being passed by a vote of 29 to 19—the third without a division.

“In the Legislative Council the measure was quietly shelved, by an order that the Bill, instead of passing, be printed and circulated. Thus the Bill was, to use the language of the Nova Scotia press, ‘committed once more to the care of the country.’

“There it will revive, no doubt, like a giant refreshed with sleep, and will come back with redoubled potency, and with victory in its crest.”—p. 287.

So good men thought and hoped, here as well as in England. They were not prepared for the bamboozlement and

trickery by which the people were to be cheated out of their favourite measure. They had to read another chapter in the history of human nature.

Dr. Lees closes his invaluable work by calling upon all good citizens to combine to procure a Prohibitory Liquor Law. He specially appeals to electors—tradesmen—the working classes—philanthropists—magistrates—women, and christian ministers. We must give one short extract more:—

“Intemperance not only involves a sinful waste in its very being, but is the teeming source of want and waste;—it is at once a pest, and the preparer for every other;—it is itself a war with health, beauty, and truth—an intestine war, in which the evil always conquers.

’Tis the Carnival of Death,  
’Tis the vintage of the grave.

“It is the legal opus which spreads its leprous distillations and dews of death throughout the land, in whose pestilential atmosphere virtue must wither and patriotism decay.”—p. 290.

Buy this work—read it—circulate it. Every W. P. and P. W. P. should get a copy.

DISCLOSURES OF A LIQUOR DEALER.—Mr Delevan, president of the New York State Temperance Society, in his recent address in the capitol, at Albany, dwelt mainly on the now prevalent adulteration of liquors. Within a few weeks he said, it had come to his knowledge, that a person whose conscience revolted at his employment in a liquor establishment, has left it for a more innocent and creditable business. He stated that it now took ten, and often only four gallons of pure whisky, to make a barrel of the whisky of commerce. To these are added rain-water, camphene and arsenic; the latter to restore the bead destroyed by water. He stated, also, that brandy made to imitate the real French brandy, and of materials of the most poisonous character, was sold at £4 the gallon, costing only twenty-two cents. That all kinds of wines were imitated so closely, that the best judges could not discriminate them, costing but a trifle, and sold at prices to suit customers. The higher the standing of the customer, and the more particular as to his wines, the higher the price, to satisfy him as to quality. The most celebrated European dealers were quoted, as to the source of supply; and European dealers, be it known, are not much behind, but much in advance of the American trader, in their adulterations. He quotes an advertisement from a chemist in New York, who is “now prepared to furnish the flavoring for every kind of liquor.” We have known personally several such frauds. The devil is carrying on no grater farce in the “fashionable world,” than what is called wine drinking. The poor coxcombs who smack their lips over their glasses, are only drugging themselves. If a physician should prescribe their drinks, letting them know meanwhile their real composition, there would be a general insurrection against the faculty.—*C. A. Journal.*



## THE ABSTAINER.

Halifax, N. S. January 15, 1857

The mourning dress in which the *Abstainer* appears this month indicates that a great public loss has been sustained. The death of Father Matthew will be lamented by Temperance men in every part of the world. They have been accustomed to regard him as a heaven-appointed agent in the good cause, and to look back upon the period of his activity as one of the most illustrious in Temperance history. His memory will ever be cherished with affectionate respect.

In addition to the brief notice given in another column, which will be followed, we hope, by a copious memoir, in our next number, we may mention that the Total Abstinence Society was organized by Father Matthew, at Cork, on the 10th of April, 1838. For several years after that time the reclaiming work went on. Hundreds of thousands of his countrymen received the pledge as administered by him, and enjoyed the beneficial effects; so that, as Dr. Lees remarks, Father Matthew's "influence, for some years, owing to a providential conjuncture of circumstances, became a vast national fact and blessing." (Prize Essay, p. 74.) Having spent some time in Dublin, fulfilling his mission there with great success, he visited Scotland in 1842, and England in 1848, dispensing the blessings of sobriety and social comfort to vast numbers. With the same object in view he travelled two years in the United States, and was received with enthusiastic admiration. He returned to Europe in 1851.

While the working classes were the peculiar objects of the reverend gentleman's solicitude, because they had suffered most from the ravages of intemperance, he was anxious to secure the approval and influence of all orders of society, being fully conscious that all would derive benefit from the general prevalence of Temperance reform. Many individuals of the upper ranks sympathized with him, and encouraged his labours. When he visited Italy, the late Pope, Gregory 16th, as we are credibly informed, "took the pledge—received from Father Matthew a medal of

the Cork Total Abstinence Society, and wore it."

The results, in many instances, were not temporary. This is acknowledged; but Father Matthew was not to be blamed for it. He did what he could, and he acted nobly, nothing daunted by loss and suffering. If his endeavours had been duly and zealously seconded by men of influence, and if systematic plans of supervision had been adopted, much more enduring effects would have been produced.

It is here that the wisdom of an organization like that of the Sons of Temperance appears. In many other societies a man may take the pledge, and be lost sight of; it is not known whether he is faithful or not. But he who joins the Sons is placed under the watchful care of the Division to which he belongs, and his temperance life is chronicled with accuracy and fidelity. All the arrangements of the Order, too, tend to encourage and stimulate him to a faithful observance of his pledge. The Total Abstinence Society is good; but the Division of the Sons of Temperance is an improvement. The former may be a pioneer to the latter. Rather, they are different detachments of the same army, each having its allotted duty, while one may be more effectively employed against the enemy than the other.

Father Matthew became a Son of Temperance in the United States. On his return to Ireland he introduced our Order there. "Apostle Division," No. 1, was instituted by him at Cork, Oct. 18, 1853. He was entirely in favor of Prohibition. He saw its necessity.

May God raise up many more, in every country and of all religious persuasions, to follow the example and tread in the footsteps of the "Apostle of Temperance."

We direct the attention of our readers to the G. W. P.'s second Address. If every "Son" will follow his advice, we shall soon see a more prosperous state of affairs.

Arrangements have been made to furnish a regular account of all Temperance meetings and proceedings in Halifax. An excellent and well-known Bro-

ther has undertaken this duty, and has commenced in the present number.

If our friends will bestir themselves they may secure a large circulation of the *Abstainer* in the city. The subscription list is far too small at present. Why should it not reach a thousand copies?

Of this we are sure, that Temperance effort is much needed in Halifax. Liquor is sold there in more than two hundred licensed houses, groceries included. Add to these one hundred and fifteen (at least) *unlicensed* houses, and we have a total of between three and four hundred places in which the death-dealing traffic is carried on—or, one rum-shop to every eighty persons of the entire population!

The unlicensed houses are to be found all over the country; but under the present law it is extremely difficult to convict the offenders, as actual sale and payment must be proved. Besides this, in too many instances, the magistrates act very reluctantly, or even throw difficulties in the way. That backwardness, and the leniency with which they are commonly treated, embolden the unlicensed to persevere in their nefarious proceedings. "Suppression" is the only policy that will prove effectual.

Meanwhile the mischief and misery are going on. We have the best authority for stating that at least three fourths of the cases that are brought before the Halifax Police Court are connected with drink, and that is the experience of similar Courts everywhere else. Who can wonder at it? But who that is willing to see and acknowledge the truth does not also wonder at the inconsistency of legislation? Yesterday, A B received from the magistrates a license to sell rum, gin and brandy, for which he paid a stipulated sum. To-day, C D is brought to the Police Court, "drunk and disorderly;" E F is charged with a murderous assault on a neighbour; and G H is dragged, half dead, out of a house on fire, the conflagration being caused by his own carelessness while stupified by intoxication. They all got drunk at the house that was licensed yesterday. The licensed man lives by other men's drunkenness, the evils resulting from which are borne by the community, and paid for. It is a heavy bill—the losses ar-

grant—the wretchedness produced is extensive—the effects are uniform and inevitable, for drinking, poverty, vice and crime are connected by indispensable bonds—and yet licenses continue to be granted!

There is an insatiation in this matter which is hard to be understood. Would any other traffic be dealt with in such a way. Take a very plain illustration: If eating potatoes produced the same effect as drinking rum does—if poverty, disease and crime were the consequences of the use of potatoes as an article of diet—if, although one-fourth of the people could use them without experiencing any visible injury, three-fourths realized the sad effects above referred to—would not the cultivation of potatoes be prohibited? Would not society demand such a measure? But rum may do its murderous work, and be licensed too! Verily, "Consistency, thou art a jewel."

In the calamitous fire which occurred in this city on New Year's day, several of our brethren were among the sufferers. Mr P. Donohoe, in whose establishment the fire broke out, was insured to the amount of £2500, but his books, though inclosed in a safe, (wrongly so called) were burned. Mr. Selden's premises, including dwelling house and the *Christian Messenger* office, were pulled down, to stop the fire in that quarter, which was thus happily effected; his types and printing materials were considerably damaged, and his furniture scattered about in all directions. He will look to the Corporation to replace his property, the same having been destroyed by order of the authorities. His claim will doubtless be admitted and satisfied without delay. Mr W. Howe lost the furniture of his office; Mr Thomas Hood saved only a coat and a bed. There may possibly be others, but we have not heard of them.

When the fire broke out, most of the firemen were absent from the city, being engaged on an excursion on the Eastern Road. It would be well for some of them to join a Temperance Society. The efforts of so useful and important a body of men should not be exposed to the danger of failure through the inefficiency of intemperate members.

Ought it not to be a Bye-Law of the

Corporation, that a certain number of Firemen should always be in the city? Had such a law been in force on the last instant, the destruction would probably have been confined, or nearly so, to the building in which the fire originated.

It is proper to add that very efficient aid was rendered by the military.

Our excellent friend, Judge Marshall, is labouring right heartily in England. We have before us a Report of a Public Meeting of the Alliance, held in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, December 2nd last, at which the Judge presided. He was received with great cordiality.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The communication of a Son of Temperance at New Glasgow, arrived too late for this number. It is under consideration.

The same remark will apply to communications from New Glasgow and Puffin Islands.

We concur with our "Wallace" correspondent in the propriety of circulating Tracts on Temperance. Arrangements are in progress for procuring specimen Tracts from Great Britain and the United States, that a useful selection may be made.

#### No. 2.

To the Subordinate Divisions of the Order of the Sons of Temperance of the Province of Nova Scotia.

BROTHERS OF THE ORDER,—

Our Divisions shall and must be revived. The reasons for our existence and for efforts such as characterized the first years of our existence, are as cogent as ever. If our organization cannot accomplish the deliverance of our beloved Province from the dominion of Rum Power, no one at present in existence can. We have the means, the resources, the appliances. Shall we use them, or shall we ingloriously leave the field, and give place to other organizations to do what we have failed to achieve. Forbid the thought. The old Guard must fight on and fight ever, until victory perch upon our standard. We must recruit. Our ranks are thinned by desertion. Some have gone over to the enemy. The blandishments and temptations of the Rum Power have proved an overmatch for their moral heroism. Some have laid down the arms of active warfare, weary with this continuous, and seemingly never-to-be-ended working in the trenches in the presence of an unyielding and well-fortified foe—a foe en-

trenched behind the enduring customs of society, and sheltered under the protection of Legislative authority. But some of you have enlisted during the war, and have inscribed upon your banners, "NEVER SURRENDER." What is your duty in the present emergency? Beat up for recruits—increase your ranks—cheer the faint-hearted—reclaim the fallen.

DEPUTIES.—Upon you depends, to a great extent, this work of bringing up the forces. Have you fulfilled the solemn responsibilities devolving upon you in this relation? Enquire. Go to work with redoubled energy and zeal. Stir up the luke-warm and fire the interested with enthusiasm. It is your duty to visit the Divisions under your charge at least once a quarter—make a report at every quarterly session, and to see that the quarterly returns are made out and forwarded to the Grand Division. Let every deputy faithfully fulfil his duty.

W. P.'s of Subordinate Divisions urge your Divisions to send representatives to the quarterly session of the Grand Division. Remember that if a single Division cannot bear the expenses of sending a delegate to represent them in G. D., two or more Divisions may unite to effect this object. Don't forget to send on your men. Let the Divisions at the next quarterly session be well represented.

Delegates have been appointed to represent the G. D. of this Province in the National Division, which holds its session in June next, in Rhode Island. The G. D. expects the subordinate Divisions to bear the expenses attending this delegation. Will the Divisions attend to this matter immediately, and acquaint the Grand Scribe with the amount you have appropriated toward this object.

Do not forget to forward your answers to the G. S. as to the propriety of making application for a charter for a Colonial N. D., to which your attention has already been called by circular. Let this be done without further delay.

One word more. We have a paper, and it must be sustained. The *Abstainer* is to be our battle-axe in the coming conflict. We must have it circulated by thousands throughout the Province. *Must* is the word. We *can*—therefore we *must*. The standard it fearlessly flings to the breeze, I enjoin upon you to carry every where to wave and warn before the eyes of every Rumseller and party politician in the Province.

I have an other word to say in regard to the stumbling blocks lying in the way of the Temperance car, which we ought to go to work to remove. This will furnish matter for my next letter.

Your's in L., P. and F.,  
ALEX. McARTHUR,  
Pictou. G. W. P.

## HALIFAX.

On Monday evening, Dec. 22nd, about 50 members of the Mayflower Division, No. 9, with a number of guests, met at the MANSION HOUSE, where they entertained with a splendid supper, Brother George Somerville, Worthy Associate of the Division, previous to his departure for England. This brother held the rank of corporal in the company of Royal Engineers, now stationed in this garrison, and is removed to Great Britain to fill a more lucrative situation. He has been a faithful, consistent, and useful Son of Temperance since his connection with the Order, and is much esteemed by the brethren.

At 8 o'clock on the above named evening, the company sat down to the supper provided by Mr. Johnson, and to which they did ample justice. Immediately after, the W. P., in behalf of the Division, presented the following Address to Brother Somerville, to which he made the accompanying reply, (for copies of which we are indebted to our cotemporary the "Daily Sun");—

## WORTHY BROTHER,—

With feelings of heartfelt regret we meet here this evening to bid you adieu! During your sojourn amongst us you have won the esteem and respect of every Brother of the Division of which you are an honored member.

It is a consolation to be assured that nothing but the stern command of duty could induce you to leave us.

In the corps to which you belong we can point to more than *one* worthy Son of Temperance, but to none more so than yourself. Whilst many of your fellow soldiers have fallen victims to the ram fiend, which, like a vulture, hovers over our city, you have taken the right stand, and practice the noble principle of Total Abstinence,—and it would be well if others would follow your example, and consent to be snatched from a Drunkard's Grave!

And, worthy Brother, in giving utterance to these sentiments, be assured that we are but repeating the unanimous feeling of the whole Mayflower Division.

We had hoped, ere long, to have had the pleasure of seeing you fill the highest office which it is in the power of the Division to bestow, and we know that you would have occupied it with credit to yourself and to the satisfaction of all,—but our hopes have been frustrated!

We know that you will ever cherish a kindly feeling for our noble Order, and especially to that Division of it, upon the banner of which is inscribed *Mayflower*. And, wherever your lot may be cast, be it in Old England, or on the tented field of some foreign clime, you will ever remember that *in Nova Scotia we thrive!*

And now, dear Brother, permit us to congratulate you. We are glad to hear that a more lucrative situation has been bestowed upon you, and we trust that you may long live to enjoy it. We feel confident that you will ever merit the esteem of your brother officers and soldiers.—And, you will long be remembered by the members of the Mayflower Division,—for we feel that in losing you we indeed lose "a brother, a man, and a friend."

You will also accept our best wishes for the welfare of your family; and may He, who holds the waters in the hollow of his hand, guide and conduct you across the bosom of the broad Atlantic, and land you safe in the home of your childhood.

Halifax, December 22, 1856

Mr Somerville replied in the terms following:—

*Worthy Patriarch, Officers, and Brothers of the Mayflower Division, Sons of Temperance:—*

With feelings of affection and respectful gratitude I accept from this Division this address, and if my future conduct, not only as a member of the Temperance body, but in any other relation in life, shall be such as at the close of my existence I may calmly look back upon without regret, I trust that I shall in the same hour be able to rejoice that I have never by any act unbecoming a Son of Temperance forfeited a single one of those friendships and alliances which I so highly prize as a member of the Mayflower Division;—and, it is not by any studied combination of words, nor upon an occasion such as this, that I can hope to express my feelings for the regard and esteem that has been bestowed upon me this evening, but by my life and actions alone can the sincerity of that feeling be proved,—by my life and actions alone can I expect to justify a portion, however small, of the flattering opinions of which this truly valuable address is a proof. And, although I am about to retire from among you, it is neither distance, absence, nor length of years, shall ever weary me in acting so that the Mayflower Division may ever regret conferring upon me this mark of esteem and regard.

In conclusion, brethren, I tender you all my hearty good wishes for your health, happiness and prosperity, and also success to the cause of Temperance of which I hope long to be a member.

Brethren, accept my hearty thanks for your kindness to me this evening, and I remain your brother, in  
Love, Purity and Fidelity,  
GEORGE SOMERVILLE.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 22, 1856.

Speeches, songs and recitations occupied the time till near midnight. Several sentiments were also given during the evening. Good speeches were made by Bros. Shean, D.G.W.P., R. Motton, and C. C. Vaux. Some verses, written for the occasion, by a member of the Division, entitled, "WE BLOOM AMID THE SNOW," were read with good effect, and presented to Brother Somerville. The Brethren enjoyed a pleasant evening. Such re-unions tend to cultivate friendly feelings among the members of the Order.

The Division Room was occupied for nearly five hours on Friday evening, 26th Decr., there being three different meetings held on that evening.

The first—from 6½ to 8 o'clock—was the usual weekly meeting of the Halifax Temperance Society, held for the benefit of the Soldiers in the Garrison. The room was well filled, and the audience addressed by the President, Wm. M. Brown, Messrs. J. Shean, J. W. Quinan, J. S. Thompson, — Miller, of 62nd Regt., and others. About fifteen of the military—of 62d and 63d Regiments and Royal Artillery—took the pledge. It was pleasing to see so many in attendance, but particularly so, when so many who had previously taken the pledge remained faithful to it, notwithstanding the numerous temptations to which they were exposed during the festival of Christmas. The weekly meetings for

the Military were commenced in August last, and have been held regularly ever since; they are generally well attended, and a number pledged on each occasion. Since their commencement, Addresses have been delivered by Messrs. W. M. Brown, J. S. Thompson, J. W. Quinan, J. Shean, Rev. P. G. McGregor, M. Herbert, Rev. Dr. Cramp, Rev. A. McArthur, R. Motton, junr., C. Robson, Rev. Dr. Twining, R. McLearn, A. James, G. Thompson, and a number of others. Several of the military also occasionally addressed the meetings, giving an account of what they experienced before and after becoming pledged. The Brethren who conduct the meetings deserve credit for the interest they have taken in keeping them up. Of this precise number of the military that have taken the pledge, we are not aware, but presume there must be between 150 and 200.

In November last a Temperance Society was organized in the 62d Regt., denominated the "Springer's Branch of the Halifax Temperance Society." The Regiment was formerly, and we believe is still so, called the "Springers,"—hence the name given to the Society.

The second meeting—from 8 to 9 o'clock—was a special session of Chebucto Division, held for the purpose of initiating three candidates by dispensation. A large number of the Brethren were in attendance. The Athenæum Division very kindly postponed their regular meeting for an hour, so as to enable the Chebucto Division to perform their good work, for which kindness the latter passed a vote of thanks.

The third meeting—from 9 till near 11 o'clock—was the regular session of Athenæum Division. The Rev. P. G. McGregor read a very able and interesting Essay on "*Activity*," which was listened to with much attention by the members, of whom there were a goodly number present.—This was one of the most interesting evenings spent in the Division Room for some time. We hope there will be many more such evenings, and that they will prove beneficial to the "Order" and the "Cause."

On Saturday evening, 27th December, a meeting of the P. W. P.'s of the City Divisions was held in the Division Room, the D. G. W. P., Mr. J. Shean, in the chair, Mr. P. Monaghan acting as Secretary. About 30 were present. Various Resolutions were passed,—one, recommending to all P. W. P.'s more frequent attendance at the regular meetings of their Divisions; another, requesting the D. G. W. P. to call the attention of the Divisions to the importance of strict regard to the Rules and Ceremonies of the Order, a third, suggesting that those members who have passed the Chair should wear the Red Regalia at meet-

ings of their Divisions. A Committee was appointed to take into consideration the state of the Order in the city, and report at the next meeting.

It was also agreed to recommend that on account of the death of Father Mathew, the members of the Divisions wear the usual badges of mourning (crape on the hat) for six weeks, commencing Sunday, January 11; and also to request that the Editor of the *Abstainer* would cause that paper to appear in mourning.

Brother John Shean, P. W. P. of Athenaeum Division, has been appointed D. G. W. P. for the City. He has paid an official visit to each of the Divisions, and was well received.

It is the intention of the City Divisions, conjointly, to publish a series of Tracts during the winter. Having heard some of the M. S. S. read, we will vouch for their being good Tracts.

We are pleased to learn that a Temperance Society was organized on Thursday evening, 18th Decr., at the Granville Street (Baptist) Chapel. The *Total Abstinence Pledge* was adopted; officers and committees appointed; meetings to be held monthly, or oftener if thought advisable. A similar Society was previously organized at the North Baptist Chapel, Cornwallis Street. Success attend their efforts, and may they increase rapidly! We would say to all other religious denominations, "Go and do likewise."

The City Divisions have increased rapidly during the past quarter—new members having been initiated. The Mayflower Division had the greatest increase. The number of Sons in Halifax on 31st December last, was 640, showing an increase of 120 over 1855. This increase has been steady—we hope sure, and is encouraging. Keep the ball moving, brethren, and let your motto be—"Upward and Onward."

There was a large meeting in the Division Room, on Friday evening, the 2d January, composed principally of the military. Those present were addressed by Messrs. W. M. Brown, J. Shean, J. S. Thompson, and Rev. Dr. Twining. Twenty took the pledge. Colonel Hill of 63rd Regt. was present.

The Halifax Temperance Society's meetings, held every Friday Evening, from half-past six to eight o'clock in the Division Room, for military men, continues to be well attended, and are occasions of great and increasing interest. Several old friends of the cause attend regularly, and are ready to take part in the proceedings; some of these having been in the army, speak in a manner at once novel and interesting to civilians and pleasing to the soldiers. Some of the Military address the meetings with good ef-

fect, and on two occasions lately, officers commanding regiments in garrison, have honored the meeting with their presence, accompanied by Rev Dr Twining. One commanding officer addressed the soldiers with much feeling, expressed great pleasure in seeing them engage heartily in so good a cause, and the pain he experienced whenever he was obliged by the rules of the service, to punish those for drunkenness who were ready to shed their blood in their country's service, and who had fought by his side on the battle field of the Crimea. Remove drunkenness he said, and there would be but few offences in the army;—a commanding officers duties would be light, and much more agreeable than they now are. Before the meeting closed on Friday last, thirty-eight men were at one time ranged in front of the chair, assenting to the society's pledge, which was read to them by the President.—(See page 63.)

#### WHAT I SAW.

Decr. 24th.—When going to the funeral of a Brother, saw a woman staggering through the streets. She was very drunk. Her husband is in comfortable circumstances,—but could keep her sober, nor at home. She is drunk daily. In consequence of her intemperate habits, her mother, who is over 70 years of age, has had to go to the Poor Asylum.

Saw three men also staggering through the streets to-day, two of them very drunk. A sad sight, these four cases, in the streets, under such torrents of rain.

25th, Christmas Day.—Saw seventeen drunk to-day. One, an old man between 60 and 70 years of age; eight, between the years of 15 and 20—some of them very drunk. They probably obtained the liquors in the second story of a building near the Parade, where liquor is said to be sold secretly. The other eight were between 20 and 30 years of age—many of them stupidly drunk.

26th.—Saw a young lad, 11 or 12 years old, rolling through the streets, very drunk. At 6 p. m. come across a sailor, a Frenchman, lying in the street, without coat or hat. It was freezing very hard at the time, and some snow falling. He was so drunk as to be unable to move, and was cursing, and making use of very obscene language. At 10 p. m., when passing through Grafton street, a man fell down eight or nine steps, much intoxicated.

27th.—Saw seven men, two boys, and two women drunk.

28th, Sunday.—Saw five men drunk, two of them heads of families; one about 23 years of age—a stranger.

29th.—Saw a young man staggering through the streets, very drunk, was nearly falling through the window of a tavern. He is about 30 years of age—

a good mechanic—hardly ever sober, was brought into the Order a few years ago, but there were so many temptations that he was soon expelled. He is the only support of a respectable and aged mother.

Decr. 30.—Saw a young man drunk, who, about twelve months ago, was seized with *delirium tremens*, and his death was daily expected. He was in that state two months. He seldom, if ever, goes home sober at night.

Decr. 31.—Saw eleven persons drunk to-day. Seven men—two boys, about eighteen years of age—and two women, one of whom had an infant in her arms.

Jan. 1, 1857.—Saw numbers drunk at the fire. *Counted fifty-nine, and then gave up.* Rum was carried to the place in buckets-full.

Jan. 2.—Saw two men and a boy drunk in the street. A young man, about 22 years of age, in a fit of drunken madness, attempted to choke his step-father. He was married about six months ago. What a prospect for his wife! When sober, he is quiet and inoffensive; but when the drink is in him, he smashes furniture and perpetrates all sorts of mischief.

In the course of the forenoon, two labourers employed on the Railway works had a dispute about *two glasses of Rum*, and after some words had passed between them, one stabbed the other with a knife. The wound was a dangerous one, but believed not to be mortal. The occurrence took place at the house of a man named McCabe, on the Windsor Road.

Jan. 3.—Saw three men drunk in the streets. Also a woman, about 50 years of age, staggering through the streets, very drunk. About ten months ago her husband was choked when at his dinner, he being drunk at the time.

Jan. 4.—Saw a man and a boy very drunk. They appeared to be strangers in the city.

Jan. 5.—Saw two men and a woman very drunk. One of the former—an old man of about 60 years—blaspheming his Maker.—(See page 64.)

#### Correspondence.

To the Editor of the *Abstainer*.

SIR,—  
As a Son of Temperance, I cordially welcomed the appearance of the *Abstainer*, and hailed it as a token of promise to our good cause, in the ultimate triumph of which I have an abiding faith; for though our Order is now prostrated, and the friends of Temperance, after the labour and devotion of years, have been defeated, yet the principles of Temperance have been firmly rooted in the ideas of our people, and Temperance habits have been extensively formed.

Defeat, therefore, only delays our progress. Hence it is not of vital importance whether we continue contending for the entire Prohibitory Law, refusing any lesser measure,—or, while keeping the former in view as our final aim, we accept any less stringent law which Legislators may be induced to bestow. But the latter course, while it would have an immediate effect in crippling the Rum traffic, might possibly prepare the way for the earlier adoption of Prohibition.

My object in this communication is to state a few reasons why Sons of Temperance should contend just as earnestly as ever for a Prohibitory Law, but be prepared to accept, and endeavour by all possible means to obtain, those minor measures or a less stringent law, as the only means of legislative coercion within our reach.

To cease contending for Prohibition would be an admission of weakness fatal to our Cause. Reformers above all things need perseverance. And again, To erect our platform on lower ground than we have hitherto held, would be a confession of error as regards the past, and the tangible though silent power we have had upon the Legislature of the country, would be at an end. Our monster petitions would be disregarded, and our future efforts set at defiance.

At the same time the policy of refusing any concession unless we get the "Bill, the whole Bill, and nothing but the Bill," is suicidal in the extreme, as it not only exasperates those who have offered the concession and excites a more determined opposition, but it also disheartens and renders indifferent the less enthusiastic of the professed friends of Temperance, and even creates strife among the members of the Order.

In view of the course of events in the sister province of New Brunswick, I doubt the successful enforcement of a Prohibitory Bill, even should we obtain its passage through the present Legislature. A Law less stringent than the one we have proposed would be more successfully enforced, for it would bespeak the sympathy of a majority of the people.

In free countries a law that is not generally acceptable to the people will be evaded, and finally erased from the Statute Book. Law-makers, then, cannot lead but must follow the intelligence of the people. It is from this that legislation has been called a system of compromises. Sudden changes in legislation become impossible. Suggested improvements have to contend against a mass of prejudice and selfishness, to which temporary concessions have frequently to be made in order to ensure success.

In the great reforms that have been effected in legislation, it is seldom that a

thorough measure has been enacted at the outset. Thus, in the abolition of Slavery in the British Dominions, the Act passed in that case was clogged with the apprenticeship system, besides an indemnification to the shareholders. But mark the result; the apprenticeship clause was repealed before its term was more than half expired, and now no slave can wear his shackles on British soil.

But the Rum slavery still exists throughout all the Queen's dominions; and in this highly favoured portion of her empire we feel its dreadful power. Have we no Wilberforce among us to direct and lead the agitation that must be continued until this worse than African slavery be abolished?—or have we had too many would-be Wilberforces among us? Of one fact I feel assured, that if Temperance leaders outside of the House of Assembly had not sought to control those within that body, on whom the issue of the battle depended, the Maine Law would now have existed in Nova Scotia—the law entire as it existed in the State of Maine; that is, the prohibition of the sale, but not of the importation of Liquors; and such a Law is the only one that can be obtained in this Province for very many years to come. Are we thus to waste our years in fruitless efforts to obtain that which may be unattainable, unless the public mind is first prepared by the operation during a series of years of a similar law to that which Temperance men rejected?

A SON.  
Hants County, Dec. 17, 1856.

LUNENBURG, Decr. 22nd, 1856.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—

The cause of Temperance here in Lunenburg is not very promising; however, it appears to me that there is more energy in the Divisions, and determination expressed by the brethren, than has been for some time. I speak of those Sons of Temperance who are true to their pledge; for unhappily they are not all so. Lately there have been some who came forward of their own free will and joined the Order, and, as persons would suppose, from pure motives, but a short time after were seen drunk, and had to be expelled. It has happened to them according to the true proverb: "The dog is turned to his own vomit again,—and the sow that was washed, to her wallowing in the mire." This proves the fact of artificial appetites being formed by those persons by the use of intoxicating drinks; as soon as the temptation presented itself, they could not resist. But I am thankful there are not many such; and those that are truly temperance men seem to take a decided stand,

and use their influence, by not going to the trouble of petitioning the House, but by making use of the means hinted at in the Abstainer of December 16, viz: by exerting their best powers, and patiently waiting for the next election. The thing can be easily accomplished; only let us be firm and united. There can be no doubt that we can find men who are prohibitionists, as Representatives—men whose brains are not stupified by alcohol. Then we shall have a Prohibitory Law, framed by our own men, on good principles and a firm basis, which we could not obtain from the present Parliament; for if we did obtain one it would be a patched up one. Notwithstanding all the good will of some of the men who constitute the present House, the rummies would succeed in sowing some of their foul tares among it. But as soon as we succeed in obtaining a sober Parliament, then we shall have good laws,—then our beloved land will have an opportunity to recover from the oppression of this tyrant, Rum. This will be a glorious time for those who live to see and enjoy its comforts. There is only one licensed tavern in Lunenburg; but there are plenty of unlicensed ones, when liquor is sold unmolested, openly, in the eyes of the magistrates. You will perhaps say, "Why don't you inform against those lawless reprobates." Let me tell you the experiment has been tried, and what was the result? Why, they were either acquitted, or let off with the most moderate fine possible, and the rumseller went home, saying, he could sell enough in a day to pay the fine, and so resorted again to his old nefarious business. Now, what can you expect when such a state of things exists? Why, even the clergy (who should be the principal men in promoting this great cause) are negligent and indifferent about it. There are four ministers resident in Lunenburg, not one of them a Son of Temperance, and some have never to my knowledge delivered a temperance lecture. Under all the circumstances, let us still stick close to our Order, trusting in God. We know it is a good Cause, for the world is opposed to it, and satan rages like a roaring lion. Temperance brethren and ministers, continue in your labours of love—yes, "Love," not for yourselves, but love for the drunkard and the rumseller. Oh, who would be a rumseller on the day of Judgment, when the souls that have descended to hell through drunkenness shall rise up to condemn him? Who would be a rumseller in that day, when the man who has been murdered by a drunken mob shall rise up to condemn him? Who would be a rumseller in that day, when the murderer himself who had his conscience seared by the hellish draught to commit the deed, shall rise up to condemn him? Who would

be a rumseller, when the widow and the orphan shall rise up to condemn him? May God speed the Temperance cause! Persevere, and we will triumph.  
LUNENBURG.

WALLACE, N. S., Dec. 25th

DEAR SIR —

As you ask for information from the country respecting the progress of Temperance, I have taken the liberty of giving you a short statement of affairs in this quarter. Our Division is doing very well at present; we have imitations very often, and I hope soon will have double the number. We have much to contend with; our enemies are very numerous; they have strong holds in every quarter; in fact our streets are so completely lined with rum-shops that it is useless for me to attempt to enumerate them, they are all selling in defiance of the law and are determined to do so. But our soldiers are firm and faithful, and I hope will never flinch until they have battered their walls of iniquity to the ground. Last summer our magistrates attempted to fine a number, but only one out of the whole could be proved guilty. I cannot begin to tell you the evils that intemperance has done here. We have seen parents weeping over the forms of their lost sons; we have seen young widows follow their departed husbands to the drunkard's grave; we have seen the bodies of those who have been dragged from the bottoms of our channels through its effects; and scarcely a day passes over our heads but we see the curse of rum in some shape or other. Notwithstanding all this, and all these calls to the intemperate to turn from their evil course or to the Christian to assist them, we find no move for the better. On the contrary, most of our leading men are against us. Many of our Deacons, Doctors, Lawyers, Farmers, and Mechanics, are drinking deep of the poisonous cup. Of the above named the two former are the least excusable. I have known both so far gone that they could do very little for either soul or body. Some of our Deacons and head Churchmen must visit the dram-shop on their way to Church, and on their return they must call again, and I am not afraid to say that night has often closed around them before they would reach their respective places of abode. With such examples as these before us what can we expect? Can we expect the rising generation will be more reformed, or can we expect that the evils of intemperance will abate in the least? What can the Sons of Temperance accomplish with all of this opposition? Are those hellish dens ever to be in our midst? Are thousands still to fill the drunkard's grave? Are widows and orphans yet to be manufactured without number? Must those little ones ever be denied the necessities of life and ever be clothed in rags? Are those men never to be kind husbands and affectionate fathers again? Are our jails, poor-houses, work-houses, and lunatic asylums still to be filled with the victims of intemperance? Our law-makers say, yes; and our aristocracy supports them. Who dares to say no? "Sons of Liberty," Sons of Temperance, you must say it. Do you love the cause you have promised to promote, and do you feel within your breast that Nova Scotia should be freed from the curse of intemperance? "Sons of Acadia," take courage and fail not; be not dismayed or put to silence.

It is no use for us to expect a Prohibitory Law with our present house. We do not want Legislators that will tell us one thing at the polls and another in the house; but we want men that can be depended upon. Men that will give us a Prohibitory Law and will do all in their power to put it in force; and the great question that now arises is how we are to get this law? I am aware that this thing is not to be done very easily, but if the Sons and the friends of Temperance are faithful to their cause and will persevere to the end they are sure to gain. But until our Sons are as faithful at the polls as they are in the Division Room little advancement will be made. A five-pound bill or a twenty-pound office, must not buy their principles. They must come boldly and take the front ranks and be determined to drive everything before them; and until it comes to this, until it comes to "rum" or "no rum," our exertions will all be in vain.

Mr Editor, would it not be a good idea to have some thousands of temperance tracts printed and sent to every house in city, village and country, got up in a plain, simple manner, that will be calculated to instill into our youth, the principles of Temperance and to stimulate the friends of Temperance to their duty? We must also solicit the ladies to assist us in our glorious work, and then we are sure of a victory. And again, Mr Editor, when an election is coming on, would it not be advisable to have Temperance Meetings all through the country? We have dozens of good speakers here, and no doubt they have the same in every county. We must go to the people face to face and get the whole country on our side. We must make the hills and valleys resound with Temperance Songs. And now, Mr Editor and Brethren, I wish you a merry Christmas and happy New Year, with best wishes for the success of the *Abstainer*. May its circulation increase until it is found in the hands of the million.

I remain in L., P and F.,  
W. S. H.

**Doings of the Traffic.**

Dr Lec thus sums up the "cost and loss of the Traffic":—

Cost of the Liquors, including the labour employed in the manufacture and sale	£56,000,000
Cost of Public-House smoking	2,000,000
Cost of food imported to replace that destroyed at home	2,000,000
Cost of accidents arising from drink	150,000
Cost of disease, idiocy, madness	4,000,000
Cost of pauperism	8,500,000
Cost of crime—police-prisons, &c.	3,000,000
Loss of manual labour	6,000,000
Loss of life. At a low estimate, 40,000 persons annually perish, prematurely, through the Traffic. On an average 10 years of life are lost in each case. Let each be valued at £80 a year	\$2,000,000
Loss of property—through bankruptcy, dishonesty, prostitution, and accident	5,000,000
Loss of mentality—in the shortened lives of artists, men of genius, &c.	1,000,000
	£119,550,000

**FATAL OCCURRENCE THROUGH INTemperance.**—Yesterday forenoon constable Corbett overheard two young women gossiping about the mysterious death of a female infant the previous night. He at once instituted enquiries, and from what he learned conceived it his duty to notify Dr Scott, City Coroner, of the occurrence. An inquest was accordingly held at the "Fireman's Home" tavern, King street west, upon the body. The jury, after being sworn, proceeded to view the body of the child, which presented nothing of unnatural appearance, but was apparently a healthy child of about four months old. From the evidence it appeared that the parents of the child lived in Boulton street, and are named Flynn. Their house presented a miserable spectacle—the home of habitual drunkards; and the presence of the father at the inquest in a state of complete intoxication, left no doubt as to their intemperate habits. Dr King gave it as his opinion, that the child had been overlaid by its parents, who at the time were intoxicated. It was proved that the father, mother and two children had retired together, and that the two former were under the influence of liquor. The mother deposed that, during the night she had changed the deceased child from one side to the other, and had not then observed anything amiss. At the approach of daylight she again moved it, when to her amazement and horror she discovered that the child was dead. The coroner having waived his right of ordering an examination of the body, upon an appeal to the jury, they decided it was unnecessary, and returned as a verdict that the child was smothered by the over-laying of its parents, who were at the time intoxicated.—*Toronto Globe.*

**DEATH FROM DRUNKENNESS.**—On the morning of the 10th ult., a man named Robert Aikens was found frozen fast in a mud-hole in the township between Mornington and Wellesley. An inquest was held upon his body, when it was elicited that he had been on the spree at a neighbouring groggery, and being too drunk to find his way home in the night, had fallen in a deep mud-hole, from which he was unable to extricate himself. Would this have been the case had we had a Maine Liquor Law?—*Galt Reformer.*

**SELLING SPIRITS WITHOUT LICENSE.**—Robert Oxley, corner of Richmond and Peter Streets, was charged with selling spirituous liquors by the glass, not being duly licensed. Oxley had been in the habit of retailing spirits and beer for some time past. The wife of one of the witnesses had been in the habit of resorting to the place, and getting liquor, and drank to such an excess that she has now a certificate to admit her to the Lunatic Asylum. The witness remonstrated with Oxley on the cruelty of supplying the woman with liquor, but Oxley not attending to his oft-repeated requests, he lodged the complaint. Fined.—*Toronto Globe.*

**SAD AFFAIR AT HAYSVILLE.**—An inquest was held on Friday last at Haysville on the body of William Collis, who was found dead on the side of the bridge in that place, on the previous day. Collis was one of those many unfortunates who cannot control their appetite for strong drink. On the evening previous to the sad affair he was known to be drunk, and at a pretty late hour left Ross' Hotel for home, in company with some companions. The jury gave the verdict:—That

the deceased came to his death by accidentally falling over the guard railing of the bridge, being under the influence of liquor at the time." This is another awful warning, as well as another sad argument for the Maine Law. We almost shudder as we think of the melancholy fate of this poor inebriate, and yet it is only one of a thousand such occurrences that are constantly taking place throughout the country. How long will the great bulk of society, embracing many men who boast of their christianity, stand inactive spectators of the terrible ravages of strong drink? Look at the case of poor Collins, examine it in the light of time and eternity, and oh! what an irresistible argument to any unprejudiced mind, in this single case, on behalf of some enactment which will suppress the sale of intoxicating liquors.—*Dumfries Reformer*.

**THE LAST GLASS.**—Thos. Ellis, an aged fisherman, who lived on the town line, between Pickering and Scarborough came to his death, on the 29th ult., under peculiar circumstances. It appears it was his practice to indulge in liquor-drinking. On the day of his death, being out on the marsh, in his skiff, looking after his musk-rat traps, in company with a friend, he partook liberally of the contents of his whisky jug, which had its wonted effect. Standing up in his boat, he was in the act of draining the last dregs of the vile bottle, when he lost his balance, fell backward in the water and was drowned.—*Christian Offering*

## Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

It is a great mistake to say there is no drunkenness in wine countries. Says Dr F. R. Lees, of England, to the *Alliance Weekly News* :—

"The French, especially, have no just views of Temperance: and indeed are, in the strict sense, a universally intemperate people. I have, indeed, seen less of sottishness than in England, but far more universal drinking of wine, and beer, and *eau de vie*—far more excitement.

But even drunkenness as we have it is very common. In walking down the Rue Censier, near the Jardin des Plantes, at four o'clock in the afternoon, I met five blouses reeling, two carriages affected with liquor, and several others "merry with wine."

### NEWFOUNDLAND.

Extract of a letter to the St. John N. B. *Temperance Telegraph* :—

I have never been among a more friendly people, if I speak of my own congregation, and a few whose acquaintance I have made, of the more liberal and steady of other Churches. There is also a Band of Sons of Temperance, who tho' few in number, manfully bear aloft the Banner of Total Abstinence; but the Demon of Intemperance rules the masses. Suffice it to say, this is the "Drunkard's Paradise!" The Rum trade is governed by the old fashioned License Law, and we have consequently unblushing intemperance and all its concomitant vice, and misery.—The Town is what your St. John was twenty years ago, when "Tim Collins" was amassing money in "Hell's Kitchen" under the old Market House, only worse, from the fact that there are not so many restraining influences as were even then at work in your favoured City.

There are ONE HUNDRED AND TEN Licensed Liquor dealers, and about twice that number selling without Licence!

To walk along this same Water Street in the evening, when every store is lighted up with gas on both sides of the street, is both instructive and affecting. The grog-shop windows are ornamented with all kinds of liquor in decanters, and the glare of the lights falling on the glasses and liquor together, and the variously coloured liquors acting so peculiarly on the rays of light, produces a lurid, twinkling glare, that looks altogether "devilish!" Then to pass the doors and look in and see the customers—Alas! it is enough to make one sick of Newfoundland altogether. But this is not the only street infected with the plague. Every street, and lane, and alley, has its rum shops with the decanters in the window, and its *female clerk*!

The fruits are easily guessed:—squalid poverty and filth: children by scores in the streets, ragged, dirty, and blaspheming; and beggars coming to your house almost every day. Pass along the streets at any hour of the day, from six in the morning and you meet drunken men, and, as it draws towards nine in the evening, you will see nightly, creatures in human form lying in the ditch uttering the drunkard's peculiar incoherent language.—From nine o'clock until three, A. M., the songs and yells of the drunkard rise high above the quiet of the Town, as different parties, in gangs, straggle through the streets. There have been a number of deaths through drunkenness within my own knowledge, and one of our friends had his house set on fire by a drunken servant, but the fire was fortunately got under owing to the early hour in the evening. On the 24 ult., we had another of those desolating fires . . . have scourged this unhappy place. Hundreds of fifty houses were burnt, inhabited by the more comfortable Mechanical classes. Whether Liquor did the business or not, I cannot say; but when Mrs. C and I walked through the ruins in the course of the forenoon there were boys and men beastly intoxicated, and I was credibly informed that two houses were purposely set on fire during the confusion.

### OHIO.

According to a late number of the *Cincinnati Gazette*, it seems the Queen city of the West is acquiring the unenviable notoriety of fast becoming one of the greatest whisky marts in the world. In and around the city huge distilleries blacken the heavens, with their volumes of smoke, and contaminate the very atmosphere with their almost ceaseless exhalations. The following figures show that the temperance reform has but begun its work:—The quantity of corn consumed in one of the Cincinnati distilleries is about one thousand bushels per day, which produces four thousand gallons of whisky. This gives a consumption annually of 320,000 bushels corn, and a product of 1,248,000 gallons of whisky. There are others not unlikely in the vicinity, some two or three times larger. The quantity of whisky sold in Cincinnati, annually, reaches upwards of seventeen million gallons, which is not more than one-half the aggregate production of Ohio and Indiana alone. It is not unlikely that the production of whisky in the Ohio valley is fifty million gallons per annum, involving a consumption of twelve and a half million bushels corn, the average value being five million dollars.

### NEW YORK.

The *New York Times* states that there are in that city and its immediate suburbs twelve whisky distilleries, which convert daily into liquor 13,100 bushels of good corn, making an annual product of 15,376,125 gallons. The receipts of country whisky amount to about 15,000,000 gallons, so that the amount of whisky sold yearly in New York is thirty million gallons.

## Morals and Health.

### GIRLS' BOARDING-SCHOOLS.

"A few weeks ago we were called upon to see a young girl suffering from general debility, neuralgic pains, vertigo, and headache. She had just returned from a boarding-school in a neighboring city, where she spent only a month before her health, previously good, failed. On inquiry, we found the routine of the school to be as follows, and to be certain of the correctness of her account, we have made inquiries of others familiar with its management:

The pupils rise at 5 in the morning. They study from 5 to 7 o'clock. From 7 to 8 o'clock they have breakfast. From 8 in the morning to 2 P. M., is spent in the school-room, a period of six hours. At 2 they have dinner; and from 3 to 5 are allowed to walk or take other exercise. From 5 to 6 they have tea, and then study from 7 to 9, when they are sent to bed.

Their diet is light and unsubstantial, and their appetites under such a regimen are as feeble as the diet.

Now, here the day of a young, growing, and spirited school girl is divided into periods of seven hours for sleep, three for meals, two for exercises, and twelve for study. Every person under full adult age needs eight or nine hours' sleep, and, in order that sleep should be healthful and refreshing, they require at least six hours of recreation and active exercise.

The time for meals is sufficiently ample in the instance here mentioned, but to allow only two hours for exercise, and that in the afternoon, when heat and fatigue dispose them to rest, is positively murderous. And twelve hours' study per day is at least five hours too much for any young person.

A child in full, vigorous health, will acquire more knowledge in six hours daily, than in twelve, for full health and mental vigor are incompatible with the discipline we have described.

This system of education takes young robust romping girls, and transforms them to slow, languid, worthless women. To acquire skill on the piano, a little bad French, and a namby-pamby knowledge of the 'English branches,' they sacrifice health, energy, all capacity for the duties of womanhood; and not unfrequently life itself.—*Boston Medical Journal*.

### "PRINCIPIIS OBSTA."

Quarrels arise, in an immense majority of instances, from letting things go too far. Do not say this is obvious, and turn away. Try and cultivate your faculty of foresight. How often may a man who will give himself the trouble to think stave off a miserable outburst of uncharitableness, by watching the turns of conversation, and handling suggestions of the

moment dexterously, so as to make redeeming divisions in the talk! Say I am talking to you. You are not precisely angry with me—no—but I foresee that if we wish to put matters very much farther you may be; that the discussion (if there be a discussion) will come to a pass in which the "honour" of either combatant will be engaged, and retraction will be impossible. Surely, if I am wise and kind, I shall put forth all my strength of brain to save you and myself this possible pain, by shooting my next arrow into the air! I once saw a fight impending between two boys who I perceived, were very unequally matched. The stronger and bigger of the two had a gorgeous new cap, magnificently tasseled, and proudly worn. Just before the blow was struck, I took upon myself to remove the warrior's helmet, and flung it far away down the street. The mob of boys assisting at the spectacle relished this sudden turn in the entertainment and gave chase. The big boy released his prey to save his darling cap. Something similar I have done in conversation. I can assure you the recollection of such things is agreeable to me, and I wish others to taste the pleasure. Do not say it is a common thing—it is not common—because not one person in ten thousand will take the necessary trouble to make it common. People are sadly afraid of thinking too much; and scatter pain, right and left, by little neglects and thoughtlessness which the smallest amount of reflection would prevent.—*Tails Magazine.*

#### PRIDE AND SHAME.

Be not ashamed of an humble parentage, or an humble occupation; be not ashamed of poverty, or even a small share of natural endowments, lest you should thereby reproach the King of Kings; but be ashamed of mispent time and misdirected talents. Be always ashamed of vice. A wicked man cannot be truly brave or noble.

#### WALKING IS GOOD.

Walking is good—not stepping from shop to shop, or from neighbour to neighbour,—but stretching out into the country to the freshest fields, and highest ridges, and quiet lanes. However sullen the imagination has been among its griefs at home, here it cheers and smiles. However listless the limbs have been when sustaining a too heavy heart, here they are braced, and the lagging gait becomes buoyant again—however reverse the memory may have been in presenting all that was agonising and interesting only on what cannot be retrieved, here it is at first discarded, and then it sleeps, and the sleep of memory is the sleep of Paradise to the unhappy. The mere breathing of the cool wind in the commonest highway is rest and comfort, which must be felt at such times to be believed.

#### A DIRTY SHILLING.

Bishop Meade, in the *Southern Churchman* gives an account of many of the old families of Virginia. Among these he mentions a man named Watkins, of whom the celebrated John Randolph, of Roanoke left a manuscript notice. A part of that notice is in these words: "without shining abilities, or the advantages of an education, by plain straightforward industry, under the guidance of old-fashioned honesty, and practical good sense, he accumulated an ample fortune, in which it is firmly

believed, there was not one dirty shilling. This is very homely Saxon language, but it is full of pith and point. In Randolph's mind there have been running some faint reminiscence of the Apostle's phrase "filthy lucre," used more than once in his epistles. Either term has wide application in these days, when the race for riches seems to absorb all hearts, and few men care for the soil upon their shillings, provided only they have enough of them. Yet the wisest of men says that a good name is better than thousands of gold and silver; whereas a few dirty shillings, a few unjust gains, a few sharp practices, will put a leprous taint upon the accumulation of a life-time. It is worth while for any man, before he makes a new addition to his heap, to examine the color of his coin, and keep out the filthy lucre, the dirty shillings.—*Christian Intelligencer.*

#### ADVICE TO PARENTS

Never deceive nor disappoint a child. Observe to keep your word in all that you may have promised to fulfil towards it religiously correct. It is for lack of this moral obligation on the part of parents, towards their children, that the tenderly constituted thread of confiding obedience, on the part of the child, is fretted asunder, and hence too often results the beneficial habit of deception, a habit too easily acquired but seldom if ever abandoned in after life.

#### FOLLOWING FASHION.

Said a judicious father, "Do not imagine, my daughter, that you are agreeable or attractive when your person is exposed, or when you aid nature by artificial means. Two classes of persons may gaze on you, to be sure—the immoral and licentious, with familiarity; the reflecting and serious, with sadness. Will you consent to such scrutiny? Follow fashion no farther than fashion follows propriety. Never let your mantua-maker dictate to your morals."

#### EXPANDING THE LUNGS.

Step out into the purest air you can find; stand perfectly erect, with the head well up and the shoulders back, and then, fixing the lips as if you were going to whistle, draw the air, not through the nostrils, but through the lips, into the lungs. When the chest is about half full, gradually raise the arms, keeping them extended with the palms of the hands down, as you suck in the air, so as to bring them over the head just as the lungs are quite full. Then drop the thumbs inward, and after gently forcing the arms backward and the chest open, reverse the process by which you drew your breath till the lungs are entirely empty. This process should be repeated three or four times, immediately after bathing, and also, several times through the day. It is impossible to describe, to one who never tried it, the glorious sense of vigor which follows this exercise. It is the best expectorant in the world. We know a gentleman, the measure of whose chest has been increased by this means some three or four inches during as many months.—*Home Circle.*

#### A HINT TO THE DISCONTENTED.

All human situations have their inconveniences. We feel those that we find in the pre-

sent, and we neither feel nor see those that exist in another. Hence we often make troublesome changes without amendment, and frequently for the worse. In my youth I was passenger in a little sloop descending the river Delaware. There being no wind, we were obliged, when the tide was spent, to cast anchor and wait for the next. The heat of the sun on the vessel was excessive, the company strangers to me, and not very agreeable. Near the river side I saw what I took to be a pleasant green meadow, in the middle of which was a large shady tree, where, it struck my fancy, I could sit and read—having a book in my pocket—and pass the time agreeably until the tide turned. I therefore prevailed with the captain to put me ashore. Being landed, I found the greatest part of my meadow was really a marsh, in crossing which to come to my tree, I was up to my knees in mire; and I had not placed myself under its shade five minutes before mosquitoes in swarms found me out, attacked my legs, hands, and face, and made my reading and my rest impossible; so that I returned to the beach, and called for the boat to come and take me on board again, where I was obliged to bear the heat I had striven to quit, and also the laugh of the company. Similar cases in the affairs of life have since fallen under my observation.—*Franklin.*

#### WHEN IS MAN RICH ENOUGH?

When a lad an old gentleman took the trouble to teach me some little knowledge of the world. With this view I remember he one day asked me, "When is a man rich enough?" I replied "When he has a thousand pounds." He said, "No." "Two thousand?" "No." "Ten thousand?" "No." "A hundred thousand?" which I thought would settle the business; but he still continued to say "no." I gave it up and confessed I could not tell, but begged that he would inform me. He gravely said, "When he has a little more than he has, and that is never! If he acquires one thousand, he wishes to have two thousand, then five, then twenty, then fifty; from that his riches would amount to one hundred thousand, and so on till he had grasped the whole world, after which he would look about him, like Alexander, for other worlds to possess." Many a proof have had of the old gentleman's remarks since he made them to me, and I am happy to say that I have discovered the reason. Full enjoyment, full satisfaction to the mind of man, can only be found in possessing God, in all his infinite perfections. It is only the Creator, and not the creature, that can satisfy.

#### EDITORIAL CONTINUED.

##### HALIFAX.

(Continued from Page 59.)

The installation of Officers in the City Divisions commenced with Atheneum Division on Friday evening, 2nd January, and ended on the evening of 8th with Chebucto Division—Bro. John Shean, D.G.W.P., performing that ceremony, assisted by the Grand Conductor, Bro. R. M. Barratt. The meetings were unusually large; a number of the P.W.P.'s, appeared clothed in the Grand Division regalia. The Grand Officers resident in the city were also present, wearing their official



regalia. About 120 brethren were at the meeting of Mayflower Division on the evening of 7th inst. Fifteen new candidates were initiated, and about twenty proposed.

The first monthly meeting of the "North Halifax Branch Temperance Society" was held in the North Baptist Chapel, Cornwallis Street, on Wednesday evening, 7th January.—Rev S. N. Bently, President, presiding.—The meeting was not as large as might have been expected. Mr Bently delivered an excellent address on "Ancient Wines." He was followed by several other speakers. This Society was organized about one month previous, when thirty persons took the pledge.

WHAT I SAW.

(Continued from Page 59.)

Jan'y 5th A man staggering drunk in the street near the Dockyard. He was selling one of the Morning Papers. He is drunk almost daily.

Jan'y 7th. A woman apparently between fifty and sixty years of age drunk in Granville Street.

Jan'y 8th. A man who resided in the Dutch Village, very drunk. Came to the City in the morning to serve his customers with milk, and got drunk. He was lifted into his cart by a Tavern keeper. He takes a spree very often, of eight to ten days at a time. He is never sober for a longer time than a fortnight, or three weeks. His poor horse frequently has to stand for a whole day when in the city, without food.

Saw two men very drunk in Water street.

POLICE OFFICE.

Jan'y 6th.—John McCarthy and Edward Caulfield, drunk and disorderly in the streets on the previous evening. Fined 10s each.

John Wilson, drunk, night before had no lodgings. Was let off on promising to go to work.

A woman found wandering in the street drunk, at 3 A. M. Sent to Bridewell for 7 days.

Jan'y 7th. A woman found drunk, admonished and discharged.

A pedlar, named Duffy, found drunk in the street lying in the snow. Sent to Bridewell for seven days.

OBITUARY.

Died at Halifax, on Monday 22d Dec 1856 after a long illness, Mr JOHN HANLEY, aged 37 years, leaving a wife and family to mourn his loss. Deceased was a member of the Mayflower Division, and his remains were accompanied to the Cemetery of the Holy Cross on the 24th, by a goodly number of the brethren, notwithstanding the inclement state of the weather—rain falling in torrents throughout the whole day.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the P. W. P's of the City Divisions, will be held in the Division Room, Temperance Hall, on Monday evening, 19th inst., at 8½ o'clock, precisely.

JOHN SHEAN, D. G. W. P.  
Halifax, Jan'y. 15th, 1856.

OFFICIAL.

Halifax, N. S., Dec 25th, 1856.

The Grand Division S of T. of the Province of Nova Scotia, will meet in Quarterly Session at South Rawdon, Hants County, on Wednesday, 28th of January, 1857, at 10 o'clock, A. M., of which the Officers and Representatives will please take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

The D. G. W. P's. are earnestly requested to forward the Returns and *per capita* tax to the Grand Scribe before the 15th of January.

The Recording Scribes of such Divisions that have admitted Female visitors, will please acquaint the undersigned, and also state the number of visitors, in their respective Divisions.

Recording Scribes are requested to be careful in making up their Returns; they will also minute on their Returns the number of Representatives to the G. D., and see that the Seal of the Division is attached.

PATRICK MONAGHAN,  
Grand Scribe.

Recording Scribes will bear in mind that the seal of their Division should be affixed to all official communications.

As the Grand Scribe wishes to complete his Return to the National Division, it is hoped that the Returns due by Subordinate Divisions for quarters ending in March, June, and September 1856, will be forwarded without delay.

Divisions wishing to admit female visitors, can now be supplied with the necessary cards, at 2s. 6d., per set of five.

Such Divisions as have not yet forwarded two copies of their Bye-laws, as requested in November No. of *Abstainer* will please do so without delay.

The following appropriations have been made towards the expenses of Representatives to next meeting of the National Division:—

Chebucto Div.	£2 10 0
Mic-Mac "	1 10 "
Atholmen "	1 10 0
Wolfville " (paid)	1 0 0
Mayflower "	1 10 0
Royal "	2 0 0
Wellington " (paid)	7 6 "
Star " (paid)	1 0 e

PATRICK MONAGHAN,  
Grand Scribe.

The Grand Scribe would request parties ordering the *Abstainer*, to state whether they are for Divisions or Clubs; and also the time they wish their subscriptions to commence.

The following copies have been ordered since last issue:—

- HALIFAX—Mayflower Division, 30 additional; Thomas Wesley, 10; Wm. Phillips, 1 additional.
- KENTVILLE—James E. Dewolfe, 1.
- WOLFVILLE—G. V. Rand, 10 additional.
- HANTSPOUR—Hantsport Division, 12.
- CHESTER—H. B. Mitchell, 1 additional.
- BAY VERTE, N.B.—Joseph C. Harper, 12.

The Grand Scribe acknowledges the receipt of the following amounts on account of *Abstainer*:—

Clements Arch Div., 10, 6 mos. on acct.	£0 12 6
Wm. Phillips, Halifax, balance	12 "
G. V. Rand, Wolfville, 60, bal.	6 5 "
C. H. Harrington, Sydney, C.B., 40, bal 2 0	2 0 "
Gough Club Temp. Watchmen, 20, bal.	10 "
Piscena Club Temp. Watchmen, 6,	15 "
Enos Cook, Yarmouth, 109, on acct.	10 0 6

Henry Mitchell, Chester, 1 addit'l.	2 6
Single Subscriptions,	5 0
Peter Paint, Strait of Canso,	1 5 0
Rev Mr Bently,	1 2 6
Hantsport Division,	1 10 0
Joseph C Harper, Bay Verte, N.B.	1 10 0

The undernamed have paid their subscription for *Abstainer*, for one year, from 15th October 1856:—

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ERRATA.—In the acknowledgments in last number, for "Willow Division" read "Walver Division"

Form of Application for a Charter for a Division of the Sons of Temperance.

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

THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA,

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

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

Enclosed is the Charter fee, \$5, Books, &c., \$2. Address Mr. P. MONAGHAN, Grand Scribe of Grand Division, Halifax.

THE ABSTAINER.

ORGAN OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF N. S.

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