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# Canada Temperance Advocate.

*Temperance is the moderate use of things beneficial, and abstinence from things hurtful.*

No. 6.

MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1837.

VOL. III.

## TUNE—"WATCHMAN TELL US OF THE NIGHT.

Temperance! tell the listening  
world,  
What thine advocates have done;  
Hearken! now the tyrant's hurl'd  
From his high despotic throne.

Temperance! shall it bear the  
sway,  
Shine o'er earth in splendour  
bright?  
Listen! for a brilliant day  
Drives away the gloomy night.

Temperance! will thy beams  
alone,  
Bid the spot that gave thee birth?  
Other times its sway shall own,  
See, it bursts o'er all the earth.



Temperance! are thy sons to  
fight,  
Like earth's hosts to fix thy laws?  
No; for truth and love unite,  
To achieve our holy cause.

Temperance! then I'll be thy  
child,  
For I love thy sacred name,  
Yes, thy voice and influence  
mid  
Can the wildest passions tame.

Temperance! we will shout thy  
praise,  
We no more will leave thy hand;  
Joyful now our anthems raise—  
Sound aloud through every land!

## TOO FAST AND TOO FAR; OR, THE COOPER AND THE CURRIER.

"TOO FAST AND TOO FAR!" said good old Parson Wheatly, of Edlington, to his younger brother in the ministry, who had that day officiated in the old gentleman's pulpit—"too fast and too far!"—"Yes, sir," replied the Rev. Mr. Merrick, of Shuffleton, "I am afraid the friends of temperance are going too fast and too far. I am getting to be of the same opinion with my friend, the Rev. Mr. \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, that it is high time for its real friends to 'drag the wheels' of the temperance car."—"Then, my young friend," said Parson Wheatly, "you will drag the wheels of a vehicle, which is annually carrying thousands of your fellow-creatures to happiness and to heaven. You have dram-shops in Shuffleton, I believe; and, if I recollect rightly, you have a distillery there."—"Yes, sir," replied the Rev. Mr. Merrick, "we have four stores, where liquor may be had, besides two taverns and a distillery."—"Pretty well for a population of four or five hundred," said the old gentleman; "and I suppose you have some drunkards."—"We have our share," replied the other; "and I am fully of opinion, that one, perhaps two, of the stores might be dispensed with."—"My young brother," said Parson Wheatly, after a solemn pause, "let us not trifle with the most solemn and important matters. You are the minister of Shuffleton; it is your business to save souls; your ordination vows are upon you; and, in the great day, the account of your stewardship must be submitted to a righteous Judge, who will not be mocked. You admit that you have drunkards in your parish; your Bible tells you that drunkards shall not inherit the kingdom of God;—say, then, can you go too fast or too far to save these wretched creatures from everlasting destruction?" The young clergyman was not a little perplexed by this prompt and faithful interrogatory. "Pray, tell me," continued Parson Wheatly, "what progress have you made in the temperance cause, in your village?"—"Why, not much, sir," said Mr. Merrick; "we have not seen much good resulting from the experiment."—"Have you made the experiment?" inquired the

old man, with an incredulous expression; "how many have joined your Temperance Society?"—"Why, sir," replied the other, "we have not been able to get up a society as yet. An attempt was made last year, but it did not succeed; the people were opposed to it."—"And how was the minister?" said Parson Wheatly, drawing his chair close to that of Mr. Merrick, and fixing his little gray eyes upon those of his younger brother so keenly, that escape from such scrutiny became utterly impossible. The consciousness of his own subserviency to the will of his parishioners, caused the Rev. Ly-sander Merrick to blush before his uncompromising brother, whose years and high standing afforded abundant justification for his plain dealing. "Well, well, brother Merrick," continued he, "since you have not seen the good effects of this experiment, as you call it, in your own parish, you shall judge of them in mine. Three years ago, the friends of temperance broke ground in this village. They scattered the seed with a liberal hand; the best efforts of the husbandman have not been wanting; and God has given the increase. The general influence of the reformation is very apparent in the manners and habits of our people. Those, who are prospered in their basket and store, are more ready to impart to the temperate poor, than the drunken mendicants. On the other hand, many intemperate men, having sacrificed their idols, and taken up anew the implements of honest industry, in some department of agricultural or mechanical labor, have ceased to be needy, and are contented to be poor. The Gospel may as profitably be preached to the tenants of a mad-house, as to a congregation of drunkards. That delightful calm, which is commonly a direct consequence of the reformation, in any village in which it thrives, prepares the way of the Lord. In Edlington it may truly be proclaimed, that righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Our church enrols among its cherished and respected members several individuals, who, three years ago, were irreligious and intemperate men. It is highly interesting to contemplate that honest and harm-

low competition, that provocation to good works, which is frequently exhibited among the reformed. Those, who formerly struggled for no other palm of victory than the reputation of drinking the largest quantity of rum, are now ambitious to excel in their respective crafts, or in the cultivation of their farms. I could exhibit many individual examples, in illustration of these remarks. Tomorrow, when you return to Shuffleton, I will ride with you a mile or two upon your way, and show you a couple of families, now residing under the same roof, in perfect harmony. They are temperate, religious, frugal, industrious, and happy. Three years ago, they were among the most intemperate and quarrelsome of my parishioners."

After their evening's repast, Mr. Merrick expressed a wish to hear some account of the families whom they were to visit on the morrow. "George Webber, a cooper, and Peter Bailey, a carrier, married sisters," said Parson Wheatly. "They became very intemperate young men. Soon after their marriages, which took place upon the same evening, a terrible quarrel arose between them; one sued the other; each employed a lawyer; and, for four years, the action was continued, appealed, ruled out of court and ruled in again, tried again and again for non-agreement of the jury, and finally gotten before the full court upon points of law. During these four years, Webber and Bailey, the cooper and the carrier, made an incalculable sacrifice of money, time, and temper. It repeatedly happened, that, whilst the lawyers were arguing upon the merits, Webber and Bailey were fighting upon the common. They left no means of reciprocal annoyance unemployed. It was really a pity, that the sum total in dispute, which had produced this domestic feud, and prolonged it for four years, had not been a matter of greater importance. The whole amount was two and fourpence, the difference between a ten-gallon keg and a calf-skin. The cooper and carrier were extensively connected by the bonds of blood and marriage; and there were few persons in Eddington, who had kept entirely aloof from this unpleasant controversy. Lancaster and York followed their red and white roses; and the good people of our village were, at one time, pretty equally divided, one half declaring for the keg, and the other for the calf-skin. No human being could foresee the termination of this two-and-fourpenny uproar. It occasioned not only alarming results, but some that were exceedingly ludicrous. Webber and Bailey, at that time, resided nearly opposite to each other; and, adjoining Bailey's shop, there was a small tanery. One March-meeting afternoon, when both were full of liquor, and, of course, the worse for it, Webber assaulted Bailey, as he was standing near a pit in the tan-yard, and told him, if he would come over the wall into the road, he'd knock in his head for him. Bailey, in his turn, called hard names, and offered, if Webber would step into the yard, to tan his hide handsomely. Webber sprang over the wall in a moment, and at it they went. After a few blows, which did little execution, for the parties were drunk, each strove to hurl the other into the pit, and both completely succeeded. It was about seven feet deep, and full of hides and dirty water. Peggy Webber saw the conflict from her window; and Biddy Bailey was attracted to her door by the shouting and cursing of the combatants. The ladies flew instantly to the assistance of their lords; each, seizing her husband's antagonist, was seized upon in turn; and, almost immediately, they were all four bouncing and floundering in the tan-pit. It was the more unfortunate, as it was a holiday, and all parties were dressed in their best apparel. Some of the neighbours soon came to their relief, and they emerged from the vat somewhat cooler than they went into it. These men proceeded in their evil courses until employment and reputation were totally lost. Bailey's wife was herself becoming a tippler. Peggy Webber was never known to seek solace from the bottle. There is some consolation, probably, in tears, and poor Peggy took it out in crying. George used to scold and threaten her, and then she would run off, for half a day, with her baby, and seek a temporary asylum with some charitable neighbor. Bailey was naturally obstinate and pugnacious, and rum made him necessarily more so. "If my wife's abed when I get home," he has been heard to say, while reeling, at a late hour, from the dram-shop, "I'll beat her; for what right has she to go to bed afore I gets home and has my supper? and, if I find her setting up, I'll beat her, as sure as I live; for what right has she to be setting up, after midnight, a burning out fire and candles?"—Rum, operating upon a very different temperament in Webber, produced

different effects. He was, by nature wild, scheming, visionary. It commonly reduced him to a condition scarcely distinguishable from inanity. He had a younger brother, who was an industrious, temperate ship-carpenter. Webber, upon one occasion, when crazy with liquor, went into the grave-yard, and, entering a tomb, brought forth a skull, and, carrying it to the ship-yard, exhibited it before the workmen, of whom his brother was one. "Whose skull is it?" inquired this young man.—"I s'pose its father's," said Webber, "for I took it out of his coffin, I'm sure."

"Webber and Bailey," continued Parson Wheatly, "were still young men, though strongly marked with every ordinary token of intemperance. They absented themselves from meeting, and studiously avoided me upon all occasions. In short, they were, to all common observation, irreclaimable, when the temperance reform began to be a topic of interest in our village.—But you shall see with your own eyes, Mr. Merrick, and hear with your own ears. They have entirely reformed; and, with their wives and their children, constitute one of the most united and pious families in my parish."—"It will be needful for me to start at an early hour," replied Mr. Merrick; "and, I fear, before it would be convenient to give them a visit."—"If you are up before the cooper and carrier," said Parson Wheatly, "you will be up long before the sun."

The next day, at an early hour, the two clergymen rode forth together. It was a fine September morning. They had proceeded about a mile and three quarters on their way.—"Stop," said Parson Wheatly, as they approached the opening of a hickory wood, "do you hear that sound?"—"What is it?" said his companion.—"Why, it is just as I told you; that *rub a dub dub* is the cooper's reveille; he is driving a hoop, and you see the sun is but just risen. Let us move slowly towards the cottage. You see the busy housewife's signal—the smoke is curling from the chimney top; and, I dare say, the jenny-cakes are already at the fire. There, Mr. Merrick, look at that white cottage, with green blinds, and a pretty garden before it. It is provided, as you see, by the double doors, for two families. That is the residence of the cooper and the carrier. Three years ago, it was a perfect hovel, whose fallen fence, and broken windows, proclaimed its occupant to be a drunkard. He was so. It was the property of old Bill Cleverly, who died, cursing the temperance folks with his latest breath.—The chaise drew up in front of the Cooper's shop. "Good morning, Mr. Webber," said Parson Wheatly.—"Ah, bless me, parson—*rub a dub dub*, you are out early," *dub dub a dub*—"going to Shuffleton, I s'pose, with Mr. Merrick"—*rub dub a dub*—"No, we have come to pay you and Mr. Bailey a short visit, Mr. Webber."—"Very much obliged to ye parson," *rub a dub dub*—*rub a dub dub*.—"There, I believe that hoop'll stick. Come, walk in Peggy'll be rejoiced to have ye take breakfast with us—sorry brother Bailey and his wife have gone to the city—went of by dawn o' day."—The clergymen endeavored to excuse themselves from taking breakfast, but Peggy was importunate, and the cooper assured them, that his boy, Phil, had caught some fine pickerel, on the preceding Saturday afternoon, and they were, at that moment, in the Spider. They, accordingly, were prevailed on to partake of the cooper's repast. Webber then produced the family Bible, and read a chapter; and Parson Wheatly made a prayer.—When he had concluded, he resumed his seat, and inquired of his host, if he were so much at leisure, that morning, that he could conveniently give them a small part of it.—"With all my heart, Parson Wheatly," said he, "if I can be useful, for I can drive the job I have in hand, a little farther into the evening."—"Mr. Webber," said Parson Wheatly, "I have been giving my brother Merrick, some account of the happy effects of the temperance reform in our village. I well know how openly you, and your brother Bailey, are in the habit of exhibiting your own conversion, as an inducement to others; and, if you will do me the favour to give Mr. Merrick some little account of it, I shall be much obliged to you. The effect of such a narrative may be beneficial elsewhere."

"Why, gentlemen," said the cooper, with a grave expression upon his features, "I shall bless the day when the reformation came into Eddington, and so will Peggy."—Peggy Webber had removed the breakfast table to one side of the apartment, and, with a baby in her arms, had drawn her chair into the circle.—"Brother Bailey and I have often said," continued the cooper, "that, if we had'n't turned about just as we did, we should have been, as like as not, in the drunkard's grave, by this time. We used to have

terrible quarrels, and all about nothing. Rum was at the bottom of them all. I don't really think we should have had any hickering, if it hadn't been for rum. The first time we fell out, we were fuddled, both of us; and we went on from bad to worse, till there was no kind of ill turn that Bailey wouldn't do me, and I wasn't behind him in any sort of mischief. Our wives were separated from each other, and there was a complete family quarrel. Bailey's wife and he had a terrible time of it; she took to liquor, and he handled her roughly enough. 'That poor woman,' said he, pointing to his wife, 'had a hard time of it, too; but she never took a drop of the vile poison. She never gave me an unkind word in her life; and, if I ever lifted my finger against her, it was; it must have been when I was crazy with liquor.'—'You never did, George,' said Peggy Webber.—'Well, I am grateful,' continued her husband, 'that I have not that sin against me. However, it was bad enough. We got to be very poor, and I got to be very cross. When I was ill natured, Peggy used to cry; and when I was only melancholy, she used to come and sit down by me, and say all sorts of comforting things; and, whenever she thought it would do, she would urge me not to drink any more spirit. I lost all my custom, and we parted with the principal part of our furniture. Our house got to be full enough of misery, if it was emptied of every thing else. I could not pay my rent any longer, and our landlord began to talk pretty roughly, and threatened to turn us out. I heard there was a good chance for coopers at New Orleans, and asked Peggy if she was willing to go. She said yes, if I thought it the best course, but that she did not see why we might not get on here, as we used to. I told her we could stay here, and live on bread and water. She replied, that she should be truly happy to do so, if I would give up spirit; that she knew it made me poor and wretched, and that this made her so; and that she did not believe our misery would be lessened by a change of residence, but by a change of habit, which could be as well made here as any where else. I was not so degraded as not to feel the force of what Peggy said.

'My wife's father and mother were dead. There was a shrewd, honest, old Quaker, in our village,—you know who I mean, Parson Wheatly—old friend Boynton, as we call him—he was a very intimate friend of my wife's father, and took an interest in his children, and used to visit at Bailey's house and mine, till matters came to a very bad state. He was very fond of Peggy always. He advised her to persuade me to go and hear a temperance lecture. I went twice; and, though I had nothing to say against the lecturer, I couldn't help smiling to think how little he knew of the force of a tippler's habits. He seemed to think a drinking man could throw them off, as easily as he could his old shoes. I knew better, as I thought, for I had tried. I've promised Peggy a hundred times, when I went out in the morning, that I would not touch a drop, and I meant to keep my promise too, but I've come home drunk at night, for all that.

'At the time I was speaking of, when the landlord threatened to turn us out, and our best prospects were about as black as a thunder-cloud, Peggy urged me to make a visit to old friend Boynton, and ask his counsel. I felt rather awkward about it, for I had avoided the old gentleman of late; and, whenever I met him, I had put on a sort of swaggering gait, which a drunkard occasionally assumes to show his independence. I couldn't refuse Peggy's request, however; and, besides, I felt as though I'd give the world, if I had it, to be able to leave off; so I went to see the old Quaker.

'I made my visit in the morning, and that I might appear decent, I had not taken a dram since the forenoon of the preceding day. I found the old gentleman at home. He relieved me of all my awkward feelings, in an instant, by his kind treatment. 'Ah, friend Webber,' said he, 'I am glad to see thee; thee hast not made me a visit for a long time; how is Peggy, thy wife, and thy little one?'—'I told him they were tolerably well, and that Peggy had sent her respects to him.—'Peggy was always a good child,' said he, 'and she maketh thee a good help mate, friend Webber, doth she not?'—'A thousand times better than I deserve,' said I, 'as you well know, Mr. Boynton. If I did not know how kindly you feel to my poor wife, I couldn't have come as I have to ask you to help me.'—'And pray, friend Webber,' said the old man, 'what wouldst thee have me to do? Thy wife's father was my friend, when I was a boy, when the heart is like softened wax, and impressions are made deeply. There are people in the world, as thee well

knowest, friend Webber, whom it is hard to serve, but Peggy is not of that number, and if I can—' I have not come a begging, said I, interrupting him: 'I have not come to ask for money, meat, fire, or clothes; and yet I have come to ask you to assist me to pay off the heaviest debt that a man can owe to a fellow mortal.—' And pray what may be the nature of thy debt, friend Webber?' said the Quaker, evidently with a little distrust as to the condition of my mind, and the real object of my visit.—'I will tell you, sir,' said I. 'When I courted my wife, I made her fair promises, such as most men make on such occasions, to be kind to her, and do all things to make her happy. These promises I have broken. When I married her, she had a little property, which you, as her guardian, had considerably increased: this property I have squandered. She took me for a sober man, and I have proved a drunkard. I have abused her kindness and good nature, yet she has never given me a harsh word or an angry look. Many times, when I had provided nothing for dinner, and supposed her without a mouthful for herself and her children, she has sent little Eli to find me, and let me know that dinner was ready; and, when I have returned, not ungraciously from the grog-shop, I have found her, if not cheerful, always kind and glad to have me come home, for I have always loved her, however I have neglected my duty towards her and the children. Peggy, somehow or other, always found something for dinner, a few roasted potatoes or a dish of dandelions, and, after Eli got to be old enough to catch fish, which are plenty in the pond, we had no lack of them in their season. At such times, I have always felt heartily ashamed of myself, and have solemnly cowed, again and again, that I would never touch another drop of spirit. But the smell of it, or the sight of it, or the very thought of it, has crowded my good resolutions aside, and, in a day or two, I have returned home intoxicated. Now, sir, if I could only cure myself of this dreadful habit, I could be happy, and so would Peggy. If there was no spirit, I could earn money and keep it. But I feel unable to resist the temptation, that is to be found at every corner. Rum has ruined me. I have disappointed my customers so often, that I have lost them all. I have nothing to do, and Roby, our landlord, has warned me out. Peggy has been anxious that I should come and talk with you, and take your advice; though I don't see how that will be lik' to help me.'—'Thee talkest well and wisely, friend Webber,' said the Quaker: 'I have often grieved for thee and thine, and have long hoped, that thee wouldst come to reflect, as it seemeth thee has done, upon the fatal consequences of thy bad habit. I thank thee sincerely, friend Webber, for the confidence thee seemest to place in me, and thee shalt in no wise be the worse for it. Thee hast a just view of this matter, and thy feelings are right, and thee wishest heartily to reform; now why dost thee not put thy name to the temperance pledge? I was well pleased to see thee at the lecture about the middle of the fourth month.'—'Oh, sir,' said I, 'I cannot do that, for I should never be able to keep clear of the temptation: I should certainly break my word, and be worse off than I was before. I dare not trust myself, Mr. Boynton. I don't think I could leave off for any length of time, unless I was compelled to do so, in some way that I cannot foresee.'—'Verily,' said the Quaker, after a long pause, 'thy case is an interesting one, friend Webber, and I think better of thee, than if thee hadst a vain confidence in thyself and thy powers of resistance. I cannot advise thee to any course, until I have considered thy matter more fully. To-morrow will be the Sabbath: wilt thee call and see me again on the evening of the Monday following?'—'I will, sir,' said I. As I was rising to depart, the old gentleman took my hand, and holding it in both of his, looked me steadily in the face, with such an expression, as a kind father would bestow upon a child, whose welfare is very dear to him.—'Friend Webber,' said he, 'wilt thee oblige me in one thing?'—'Very gladly, sir,' said I, 'if it is in my power.'—'Well, then,' said he, 'as I wish thee to receive such counsel as I may give thee, in a profitable condition of mind, wilt thee promise me to forbear from tasting any intoxicating liquor till I see thee on Monday evening.'—'I'll give you my word and honor, sir,' said I, 'that I will not touch a drop.'—'And may the Lord help thee,' said the old man, as he pressed my hand with great earnestness.

'I felt better for my visit. I found that I had a friend, for Peggy's sake at least, who did not utterly despise me. I kept my word with the old gentleman, and knocked at his door on Monday evening, with something like the confidence of an honest man. He

opened it himself.—'I am right glad to see thee,' said he; 'sit thee down. Well, hast thee kept thy promise?'—'Yes, sir,' I replied. 'Thee hast not tasted spirit since I last saw thee?'—'Not a drop, sir,' said I.—'I thought so,' he replied; 'thee lookest better than I have seen thee for a long time. Dost thee feel any the worse for it, friend Webber?'—'No, sir,' said I; 'I feel better and happier.'—'Well, now I must tell thee,' said the old gentleman, 'that I have been so much engaged since our last meeting, that thy matter has not occupied my attention so fully as it ought. I have had much upon my hands in connection with our conference, which takes place on Wednesday, and from which I shall not return till Thursday. On the evening of that day, I will endeavour to prepare for thee, and in the mean while, thee wilt promise me to abstain until that time.' I gave him my promise and took my leave.

"In the interim I began to feel the want of occupation; and, having foreclosed myself from seeking it at the grog-shop, I endeavored to find it in my own."

When George Webber had reached this part of his narrative, he perceived that Peggy was deeply affected. A few tears had fallen upon her infant's hand, which the child raised towards its mother, with a smile of wonder upon its features, while its eyes were turned inquiringly upon her's. The incident had attracted the attention of the clergymen.—"You are thinking of old times, Peggy," said her husband.—"Yes, George," she replied, "I can never forget that week, nor how I felt, when I told Eli to go over to the tavern and ask you to come home to dinner, and he told me you had been sitting at work on the shaving horse ever since breakfast. I always had a fondness for music, but I never listened to any one half so sweet as the *rub a dub dub*, that you kept up upon your barrels after your return from visiting good old friend Boynton."

Mr. Merrick, who had become exceedingly interested in the cooper's story, begged him to proceed.

"Well, gentlemen," said he, "when Thursday evening came, I went once more to Mr. Boynton's house. He received me as kindly as ever. 'Thee lookest so well, friend Webber,' said he, 'that I need not ask thee if thee hast kept thy word.' 'I have kept it, sir,' said I.—'And is not thy home pleasanter, and thy wife happier?'—'Oh yes, sir,' I replied, 'have you made up your mind, Mr. Boynton, as to any course which would be best for me.' 'I owe thee an apology,' said he, 'for thus putting off the full and final consideration of thy matter; but, if my life be spared, and thee wilt call on me on Monday morning, I will surely give thee my advice.—We have killed a pig, friend Webber, and my wife will have thee take along a roasting-piece for Peggy.—Thee wilt keep thy promise, I trust, until we meet on Monday.'—I thanked the old gentleman for his kindness, and, having renewed my promise, I returned to my family.

"As I was sitting at my work, it suddenly occurred to me, that I had already reformed, without knowing it. I sat for a few moments upon my shaving horse, marvelling at my own stupidity, in not having understood the old gentleman's drift before. I had not supposed it possible to abstain for twelve hours, and yet I had already tried the experiment successfully for nearly nine days; and, when I marked the increased happiness of my poor wife, and the lightness of my own spirits, I resolved within myself, that it should be something more than a nine days' wonder. I hadn't been inside the meeting-house for about a year. Saturday night, after I had shut up the shop, I washed myself up nicely, and, when I went into the house, I told Peggy, if my coat wasn't torn so badly, I'd go to the meeting with her next day. 'Why, George,' said she, 'I'll sit up till morning to mend it, if you'll go.'—'Do go, daddy,' said Eli, and running out, he got my bettermost shoes, and began to scrub 'em up for Sunday. I remember your text, that morning, Parson Wheatly, and I applied it to my own case—*Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

"On Monday morning I went to see my landlord, Mr. Roby; and, when I told him that I had left off spirit and meant to work, he agreed to wait for his rent.

"I did not go that morning to see Mr. Boynton, and, in the afternoon, he came, of his own accord, to visit me.—He found me hard at work. 'Well, friend Webber,' said he, 'thee didst not keep thy appointment. I hope thee hast kept thy promise.'—'Yes, sir,' said I, 'I have kept my promise, and I trust, by God's help, to keep it to the end. If I can keep it for ten days, I begin to think I can keep it for ten years, and to the end of my life, and

such, I suppose, though I did not understand you at first, is the substance of the advice you intended to give me.'—'Yes, verily, friend Webber,' said he, with a benevolent smile, 'I can do no more for thee than thou hast done for thyself. If all, who are given to stroug drink, would make the effort, as thee hast done, the path of reformation would be found much easier than it is supposed to be.'

"Good old friend Boynton spread the news of my reformation, and I soon had as much business as I could turn my hands to; and from that time to this, Peggy has had no lack of that music that she tells you she is so fond of.

"If I am a better man than I was, your preaching, Parson Wheatly, with God's blessing thereon, has had its share in making me so. About two months after I left off spirit, Peggy and I went over together to see brother Bailey and his wife. He was sick in bed, and both were quite sober. They were greatly surprised at our visit. Peggy went up and kissed her sister, and I shook hands with them both. I told them that we had come to ask their forgiveness for all the hard thoughts, words, and deeds, which we had ever indulged or committed towards them. They behaved better than I had supposed they would. You know, Parson Wheatly, how it has all come round. It took a long time to bring it all right, but we all four have been members of the Temperance Society for years, and I believe there are few better friends than brother Bailey and I; and if there is no happiness under this roof, there is none in Eddington."

The Rev. Mr. Merrick became a devoted friend of the temperance cause. At parting, he assured Mr. Wheatly that he was desirous of commencing the reformation in Shuffleton as speedily as possible; and the haste with which he finally drove off from the door, produced an impression, that, where the bodies and souls of immortal creatures are at stake, he had come to the conclusion, that a minister of the Gospel is in no great danger of going *too fast and too far.*

## Letters to the Editor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—In my last I promised to give the names of the office-bearers of the Amherstburgh Society, they are as follows:—

*President.*—Thomas Paxton.

*Vice-Presidents.*—Mr. Joseph Gravelline and Henry Wright.

*Treasurer.*—Peter Taylor.

*Secretary.*—James Kevill.

With an Executive Committee of seven.

This Society is steadily advancing, and the opposition which was made to it at first, is considerably weakened. At Sandwich there have been two public meetings since my last, at both of which powerful addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Cleveland. At the first meeting the Episcopal Clergyman, who joined the Society when I was there, is reported to have said that he had signed the pledge without due consideration, and in a moment of weakness, that he wished his name withdrawn, that the arguments of the Reverend Apostle from the other side of the water, were all sophistry, and that the ladies would be better at home putting their children to bed, than listening to such speeches. The Society is, however, likely to do well, although lacking the powerful aid of the ministers of the place. About seventy copies of the Advocate are now sent to the Western District; and I consider it of immense importance that correct principles should be known and acted upon in that region, which is, and always must be,

the garden of Canada. If merchants in other parts of the country would make up lists of their customers who were likely to take and pay for Advocates, they might order them at once, debiting each individual with the amount, which would, no doubt, be paid after the parties had read the Advocate. There is every disposition, on the part of the Montreal Society, to make the Advocate interesting and useful; to make it in fact a paper which people will desire to read, not read as a duty. Therefore, I have no hesitation in saying that those who order it, will be pleased with it.

At the Tanneries (near Montreal), a meeting was held in the early part of this month, for the purpose of organizing a Society, and appointing office-bearers. The attendance was very thin, and the opposition was so strong, that no one could be prevailed upon to stand forward in the matter; a President was appointed, but he called upon me a day or two afterwards, and requested that his name might not be published, as he would never hear the last of it if his name appeared in print. A meeting was likewise held in Laprairie, where some progress was made, chiefly among the ladies.

The next number of the Advocate will contain a Circular Letter to the Office-bearers of new Temperance Societies, and persons desirous of forming Societies—explaining as fully as possible, the way which has been found successful of forming new Societies, and increasing Societies already formed. I am, your obedient Servant,

JOHN DOUGALL,

*Chairman Executive Committee.*

Montreal, September 30, 1837.

#### A DRINKING PARTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—A few weeks ago, a number of young men, chiefly clerks in wholesale stores, had a party in the house where one of them boards, and set regularly to work in imitation of their seniors, to have a jollification. By nine o'clock in the evening, they attained that degree of drunkenness which rendered them reckless of consequences. They made noise enough to alarm the whole neighbourhood, and formed a plot to inveigle a teetotaller, who lived at a short distance, to come amongst them upon some pretence or another, when two or three were to hold him, and the rest pour liquor down his throat. The teetotaller received a polite invitation, but did not think that the sounds proceeding from the house occupied by the young men, savored of temperance, so they were disappointed of that part of their sport. However, to make up for this disappointment, they sallied out, yelling and screeching like a legion of demons, to the street, where unluckily they found two milliners (one of them a teetotaller) who had ran out to a well at a short distance for a pitcher of water, whom, in the most manly manner, they chased, and pulled and beat, till their screams were heart-rending. One of the poor girls had a new merino frock torn in half a dozen of places; the other had her thumb sprained so severely that she has not been able to work (and she has no other means of gaining a living)

for six weeks, and both were so terrified that they could not stand when they got home.

Whether such conduct was right or not, I leave to the youths to decide when they are sober. Perhaps more than one of them may be inclined to exclaim with Cassio, Oh! that men should put an enemy in their mouths to steal away their brains! The remedy for all this is simple, and there is but one remedy—not to drink.

D.

### Canada Temperance Advocate.

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

MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1837.

PERSECUTION.—"I do not like the way you total abstinence men have now got into of holding up to reprobation those who won't join with you; things have now got to such a length, that they are absolutely persecuted," said a minister who took a little drop of wine or a glass of beer occasionally. "No, sir," was the reply, "we do not persecute any one; but we do not cease to condemn the practice of pious people, especially ministers, who drink intoxicating liquors; we must do it in self-defence, and we do it because duty compels us. Do you think that drunkards shelter themselves behind persons like themselves? No; it is behind professing Christians, and especially ministers. You are actually the pillars of drunkenness, and stumbling-blocks in the way of the temperance reformation."

REFORMED DRUNKARDS.—When a drunkard joins the Society, what a moment of intense interest with those who feel the value of the mind and soul. It is the turning point with many from hell to heaven. Let us then watch the steps of the drunkard in his reformation with persevering care. Invite him to your houses, teetotallers; take him by the hand in his business; lead him to a church; put a Bible in his hand, and teach him the privilege of prayer.

The Rev. A. O. Hubbard's Essay came to hand too late for insertion in this number.

#### Progress of the Temperance Reform.

MONTREAL.—The operations of the Society are still carried on with vigour, and considerable numbers are added weekly to it. The public meetings on Thursday evening have been well attended, the speakers seeming to give much satisfaction. The prayer meetings are kept up as usual, and much becoming feeling, in particular, has been witnessed at the one in the Quebec Suburbs.

The Society is now on the total abstinence principle, and numbers nearly 900 members.

**QUEBEC.**—This city, where the efforts of the friends of temperance are so much needed, was visited by the Rev. W. Taylor, Mr. W. Morton, and Mr. Court, in the beginning of last month. They arrived there on the afternoon of the 5th, and had a meeting the same evening in the school-house under the Mariner's Chapel, Diamond Harbour, the Rev. J. Brown in the Chair, at which Messrs. Taylor, Morton, and Mr. Booth (of Quebec) gave addresses. At the close, fourteen names were added to the declaration against all intoxicating liquors, and much interest seemed to be taken by the audience in the remarks made by the speakers.

Next evening (the 6th) a meeting was held in the school-room just outside John's Gate, when Messrs. Taylor and Morton again spoke on total abstinence, to a large audience. At the close of the addresses, thirty-four names were received to the total abstinence pledge, and a meeting intimated for next evening in the Mechanics' Institute to form a Society, for which arrangements had not then been made.

On the 7th a Total Abstinence Society was formed, Jeffery Hale, Esq. President, Dr. Douglas, Vice-President, and Mr. Russell, Land Surveyor, Secretary. The meeting was very well attended, and many of the speakers were of the working classes, among whom the cause seems to have taken deep root, a most favourable presage of its success. The Chairman and the Rev. Mr. Brown addressed the meeting, the former on the responsibility attached to the office-bearers then chosen. The public meetings are to take place monthly, and it is earnestly hoped that they may be kept up with interest and be held even oftener, as this is one of the best means of promoting the objects of the Society. The number of members exceeds considerably one hundred.

A few of the friends of temperance there have printed 1000 copies of an extract from an excellent speech of the Rev. Doctor Edgar of Belfast, which they intend for gratuitous circulation. May God prosper their efforts, the success of which is deeply interesting to their brethren here.

**LACHINE AND ST. LAURENT.**—It will be the endeavour of the friends of total abstinence to visit these places this month. The former is full of taverns and grog-shops, and no society is formed there.

#### UPPER CANADA.

On the 25th ult., the Rev. William Taylor and Mr. William Morton left Montreal to deliver addresses in some places in the Upper Province, and the following is the result of their journey:—

**CORNWALL.**—The principal of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, has received in this town a powerful impetus, which, it is reasonably expected, will be permanent. On the evenings of the 26th and 27th, meetings were held, at which Mr. Taylor and Mr. Morton gave addresses on the subject, the Rev. Mr. Hulbert also spoke in favour of Temperance Societies. The effects resulting from their combined labours were far greater than even the warmest and most sanguine friends of this glorious cause anticipated; fifty-three individuals having signed the pledge, and conviction being

apparently produced in the minds of those present, of the truth, excellency, and importance of total abstinence.

From the remarks afterwards made, general satisfaction seems to have been felt, and no where stronger than among those labourers on the Canal who were present. It may be said without fear, that this cause is established in Cornwall, and that God has visited it in great mercy. The Ministers of the gospel have not as yet come forward as advocates of Total Abstinence, although one is the fearless opponent of the use and traffic in spirituous liquors. May they come and lead, and not be led in this blessed work. Twenty copies of the *Advocate* were taken, and a subscription made to pay the expences of Mr. Morton, the Montreal society bearing the rest.

**LANCASTER.**—On the evening of the 28th, the Rev. Mr. Taylor and Mr. Morton with Mr. Court, proceeded to Lancaster, where a meeting was got up. The impression next morning in the village was very great, and the subject formed the matter of general conversation, many opponents being turned into warm advocates, and it may be almost said that the meeting has turned public opinion there upside down. A meeting is to take place on the 3d instant, when it is expected a great increase of names will be obtained.

It would be exceedingly desirous that a tract on Total Abstinence could be written and printed in Gaelic, the importance of which has long been felt by the friends of the cause in Montreal, who are willing to be at the expense of having it printed. Twenty copies of the *Temperance Advocate* were requested to be sent to this place.

One of the store-keepers there, it is stated, is convinced of the injury done by the sale of spirits, and is desirous of giving it up. May he be enabled to fulfil his desires.

The following letter from the Secretary, will afford an account of the proceedings at the meeting:—

LANCASTER, U. C., September 28, 1837.

A meeting duly called, was held this evening in the house of the late Roderick McLellan, for the purpose of hearing addresses on the subject of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks, and of endeavouring to form a Society on that principle.

Mr. Robert McPhee was called to the Chair, who explained the object of the meeting, and called on the Rev. W. Taylor of Montreal to open the meeting with prayer. Addresses were then delivered by that gentleman, and Mr. Morton from the same place, a reformed drunkard. After some remarks from the Chairman, the Rev. William Taylor closed with prayer, on which the pledge of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors was presented, when it was signed by twenty-five individuals.

It having been thought advisable to proceed to form a Society on the principles of abstinence from intoxicating drinks, it was moved by Mr. Court, Secretary of the Lower Canada Total Abstinence Society, and seconded, "That a Total Abstinence Society be now formed with the following constitution," (which, being similar to others, is here omitted.)

It was then moved that the following be the officers of the Society, with power, agreeably to the constitution, to add to their number:—

*President.*—Mr. Robert M'Phee.

*Vice-President.*—

*Secretary and Treasurer.*—Mr. Robert M'Pherson.

*Committee.*—Mr. Donald M'Rae, &c.

BEAUHARNOIS, L. C.—The steamboat having been detained here by the lateness of the hour, it was concluded upon to endeavour to get up a Temperance meeting. Having received the use of a room from the School-master, Mr. Richardson, a hall was obtained, and a man sent round to inform the inhabitants of the meeting. At the hour appointed, a few of the inhabitants, with most of the passengers by the steamboat attended, and were addressed at length by the Rev. Mr. Taylor. At the close of the meeting Temperance publications and a Signature Book were left, and it is hoped that a Society will in course of time be formed here. It was stated, it may be remarked, that there were *ten places* in the village, where intoxicating liquors were sold; this, assuredly, is fit to bring upon it the bad character for drinking, which one of the persons present gave it. The party arrived in Montreal on the morning of the 30th, in safety. They were greatly satisfied with the result of their journey, and grateful to God for the success which had attended it.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

DEAR SIR,—Believing the following letter from Wales, will be interesting to the friends of Temperance in this country, I send it, hoping you will insert it in the Advocate, and praying that the time may soon arrive when the cause here will progress with equal rapidity. I remain, yours respectfully,

W. G.

*From the New York Evangelist.*

MY DEAR FRIEND, \* \* \* \* \*  
Immorality, in its various forms, has made rapid progress in the principality during the last few years; especially is this true with regard to the sin of intemperance, with its accompanying evils. In populous districts, such as the salt quarries, coal works, and other mine works, intemperance has prevailed and increased, during the last eight or ten years, to a very alarming extent. But there is a redeeming spirit in Wales. God has appeared in very deed among his people, in rousing up their slumbering energies, and in uniting the efforts of the wise and good of all classes of society in the promotion of the temperance cause.

My dear sir, it is impossible to give you a correct idea of the almost miraculous success which has attended this cause, during the last twelve or fourteen months, in North Wales; and I am happy to say, the sacred fire of reformation is fast spreading in South Wales. The principle is *total abstinence* from intoxicating liquors, as a drink. It should be remembered that the Welsh people are one people, differing much in this respect from the people of this country; (composed as we are of the elements of almost all nations,) and that the mass of society can be induced to *move together* in any good

cause much better than in America. They are also a people among whom infidelity is hardly known; I mean, in open profession. From habit, if not from a better principle, they will come under the sound of the gospel. The entire people have had much gospel training, and can appreciate something of the value of gospel principles and of correct moral reasoning; the consequence is, that while their ministers have taken a firm stand on the side of temperance, and have come forward with promptness and zeal to plead the cause; and while other good men, and men of influence in society, have taken the same stand; and while a blessed harmony has existed among the friends of the cause, a most glorious triumph has been achieved over this mighty evil. I have heard from brethren who are in the way of knowing facts in this case, that *several thousands of intemperate men have already been reclaimed*; and, being reclaimed, they generally become *firm advocates of the temperance principle*, which gives great encouragement to their friends that they will hold on well. A still greater number of those who had formed habits of drinking "*moderately*," as it is termed, but who were fast treading upon the footsteps of the drunkard, and whose case was scarcely less hopeless than his, have abandoned those habits altogether. And very many of those who had not at all been affected by this evil, have come forward to join this cause, for the purpose of aiding, by the influence of their example, in the promotion of this blessed reformation. And it is amusing and pleasing to every friend of his species to observe how even little children become zealous and consistent advocates of the total abstinence principle. Children's meetings have been held, and little boys have come forward in these meetings, and have astonished and rejoiced the hearts of their parents and others, as well by the zeal which they manifest, and the soundness of the principles which they advance, though clothed in the simple language of childhood.

There is something peculiar in the character of the great public temperance meetings held in Wales. They are attended by vast multitudes of people—two, three, and even four thousand persons have been present at some of these meetings, held as they necessarily are in some places in the open air, but usually in their large and spacious chapels. At some of them, and as a public expression of joy and gratitude for the blessings which the temperance cause confers upon the world, the people move through the streets in solemn procession, under appropriate banners, with such inscriptions as the following, in large capitals, "*Sobriety and Happiness*," "*Sobriety, Peace and Godliness*," "*Temperance, Health and Domestic Happiness*," &c. &c. And as they go, appropriate hymns are sung by some thousand voices, bespeaking the language of joyful hearts. This gives publicity to the cause; it brings the multitude together; and in some way prepares the mind to receive truth. And to some the very appearance of such a procession of men rejoicing in their deliverance, and the deliverance of the world from an evil so great as that of intemperance, is very affecting. In one place, a mother, seeing her son walk in this procession and carry one of the temperance banners, and calling to



recollection the late history of that son, (*he was a reclaimed man*.) cried out with extacies of joy, "Oh! my son Richard! my son! my son!—is it possible that this is you! Can it be that the Lord has done so much for such an unworthy creature as I am," &c. or words of a similar import. She wept and cried aloud—her son wept—and hundreds of the bystanders wept with them. The scene was affecting beyond description. A meeting of this kind was held in Holywell in Flintshire. It was on the day of the Holywell races. The friends of temperance from the surrounding districts met at an appointed place, about two miles from town, early in the morning for consultation and prayer. They then formed their procession, and thus walked into town, and sang hymns as they went, being in number about twelve hundred. Near town they met the gentry and nobility riding in their regimentals with great glee to the race ground. Some of these as appeared afterwards, felt humbled and ashamed at the contrast. Here the labouring classes were engaged in a cause which is designed to lessen, and if possible to remove from the world the evils of intemperance, while they, moving in a higher circle, and having the means, it would seem, of knowing better things, were doing that which produces more intemperance and gambling and every thing that is degrading to man, than almost any species of iniquity in which men can be engaged. One of the gentlemen, Lord Moyston, in a speech after dinner that afternoon, alluded to the scene which had passed before them with much feeling. He made several remarks upon the benevolence of the object of temperance societies, and concluded with saying that this should be the last time for him to be seen at the races.

Besides these great public meetings, others are held of a more local character; some of which I had the pleasure of attending. Weekly meetings are held of the members of the society *alone*, which are said to be very interesting. In these meetings the reclaimed drunkard gives expression to his feelings and sentiments; and the simple tale told by the man who has himself been the subject of intemperance, who knows the ills connected with such a life, and who is now in his right mind, makes a very deep impression upon those who hear it. The account which some have given of themselves at these meetings, is most heart-rending, and their expressions of gratitude for the temperance society is refreshing and encouraging to the friends of the cause. There is a tendency also in these meetings to establish the reformed in their new principles and new habits. Weekly meetings for prayer are also held with direct reference to this cause, in which members of churches of different denominations unite in supplicating the divine blessing upon this effort to reform the world from one of its mightiest evils. I attended a public meeting in Carnarvon, where about three thousand persons were present, and a procession was formed, with singing of hymns, &c. News from the distant land of America concerning the first dawn of the temperance cause, and its blessed effects as thus far experienced among us, were received with great attention and interest.

It will give you some idea of what has been done in the cause of temperance in North Wales, to know that

in one county (Flintshire) the duty on malt, as reported by the public officer, has been less last year, by *eleven thousand pounds sterling*, than in any preceding year. In some of the slate quarries in Carnarvonshire, where several hundreds are together to work in the same quarry, the workmen have enrolled their names on the list of the society, almost to a man. In Llanrwst, where, previous to the formation of the society, scarcely a week passed, but some two or three were put into the house of correction for riot, or in some way disturbing the peace, in consequence of intoxication, it is a fact that since its formation in September of last year, *not an individual has been put into that prison for any crime whatsoever*. The public mind is undergoing an entire renovation with reference to the use of intoxicating drinks; and though opposition is experienced, and that of a bitter kind, there as in America, from those immediately interested in the sale of the article, and though, strange to tell! some ministers and members of churches stand aloof from the cause, yet a spirit has gone forth, and light is spreading on this subject, which I trust will produce a general reformation from this crying sin of the land. America has had the honor of being first in the field to combat the evils of intemperance; but I do think that North Wales is now far before us in the energy and zeal which they manifest in this cause, and certainly their success has been far more abundant. I am encouraged to think that the Lord is preparing his people for a great and glorious work of grace in that interesting country. I hope the hearts of Christians in America will soon be cheered with news of such import from that portion of Christ's vineyard. One thing is certain, and that is, that as the cause of temperance advances, some of the most formidable obstacles to the success of divine truth will be removed. And besides, it will promote brotherly love in the churches. It does it, most evidently, at the present time. Coming together to plead the cause of temperance in their respective chapels and congregations, Christians seem to forget their minor differences, and the all-absorbing subject is the world's salvation from sin and death. May we not hope that a work so glorious and so signally blessed of God, shall be followed by still brighter displays of divine grace.

Affectionately yours,

R. EVERETT.

**DARK AFFAIR.**—Mr. Samuel Stover, of Bushcreek township, near Zanesville, (Ohio) was found lying dead in a pool of shallow water on the 27th ult. The jury of inquest concluded that he had fallen from the bridge in a state of intoxication, but some supposed he would not have fallen thirty-five feet without more marks of external injury. Mr. Stover was about fifty—a prosperous farmer but intemperate.—*New York Evening Star.*

**T. WEBSTER'S  
TEMPERANCE INN,  
NEXT TO BELL'S WHARF,  
THREE RIVERS.**

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