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*Letters to the Editor.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR.—Having recently made a tour to the West, partly through Canada, and partly through the United States, I think a few paragraphs respecting the state of the Temperance Reformation in the places which I have visited, may not be uninteresting to your readers.

I left Montreal by the Upper Canada Stage Line in the forenoon and dined on board the steamboat which plies between Lachine and Cascades. The table was well supplied, not only with food, but with brandy, gin, and whiskey; and several of the gentlemen called, as is customary in Canada boats, for wine, porter, ale, &c. Some American gentlemen who were there, said it was the first public table they had seen for some years, upon which liquors were set down. Both in this boat, and the one from Coteau du Lac to Cornwall, the bar was well frequented. Indeed, I do not know where a person who feels the inclination for intoxicating liquors becoming too strong for him can flee for safety in this country. If he goes into the cities he will find hotels, taverns, grog-shops, and saloons, at every turning; he will see the poison that is tempting him to destruction in every third or fourth window; he will be continually assailed by the odour of alcohol; for if wisdom is not to be found at the corners of the streets as of old, alcohol is, in the most seductive and tempting forms that it can assume. If the person who wishes to escape from the allurements of alcohol goes to the houses of his private friends, he will find his enemy in their cellars and cupboards, on their sideboards and tables. If he take the swiftest packet or steamboat to flee away from it, lo! it is there with him. His enemy haunts him wherever he goes; his temptation is always before him, thrust in his face by the respectable owners of steamboats, packet ships, and hotels, as well as private friends. If he is utterly and irretrievably lost at last, how will the guilt be divided? One thing is clear, there is great guilt somewhere.

From Cornwall we proceeded to the head of the Long Sault. A canal is going on along this section, and a great number of labourers are of course employed. Now, would it be credited by any one not accustomed to things as they are among us, that although the drunkenness and disorderly character of many of these labourers is considered the greatest nuisance and curse to the place, yet every merchant there (excepting I believe one) is actively employed in supplying the instrument or means of this drunkenness, in brutifying and destroying the poor ignorant laborers with whiskey. A year or two ago, a respectable gentleman was murdered through mistake, by a number of these labourers, who were in a state of intoxication. Yet, although all acknowledged that whiskey was in reality the murderer, no one sold a pint the less for it. The poor man who struck the blow was hanged for it, if I recollect rightly; but no body said any thing against the store-keeper, or the tavern-keeper, who had put him into a fitting state, who had supplied him with that which inspired him to commit the murder. Nay, these very same store and tavern-keepers cry out about the drunken and disorderly population that surrounds them! Truly their complaints come with a good grace.

A similar state of things to that which I have described in Cornwall, exists, or did exist, at Bytown. And it is not wonderful that it should be so: for not one of the Magistrates, or Ministers, or principal men, will lift his voice in favor of Total Abstinence. Nay all, by their example, encourage the use of the drunkard's drink: and a Minister of the gospel has threatened, as I am informed, to preach against any one who would dare to come there, with a view to establish a Temperance Society. Truly, such men need not complain of the conduct of shiners. They are well worthy of such neighbours.

From the head of the Sault to Prescott, we proceeded by steamboat; and here, as every where else, drinking appeared to be prevalent. I had several discussions to maintain as we went, in which I stood alone against the rest of the company; but here I found that I had a staunch ally in a gentleman from Seneca, New York, who told several agreeable anecdotes of the progress of the cause in his neighbourhood, and bore unhesitating testimony in favor of total abstinence.

The scenery along the St. Lawrence is exceedingly beautiful.

The purity of the waters; the luxuriance and freshness of the vegetation on either shore, and the clear skies, and wholesome air, render a trip along this river delightful. And I could not help thinking, when I saw many, both of the cabin and steerage passengers, sunk into a sort of apathetic stupefaction, by frequent visits to the bar, and rendered totally unconscious of the beauties of nature which I had so much occasion to admire, that they were certainly not acting the part of rational, dignified, moral beings.

The St. Lawrence is one of the noblest and most majestic rivers in the world, and apparently designed, as it were, expressly for the happiness, prosperity, and comfort of the great nations which must inhabit its shores. What a pity its pure waters should be so much neglected for the polluting streams of the Brewery and Distillery! What a pity it should be made a canal for conveying the liquid poison from one part of the world to another. I trust the time is not far distant when its broad bosom will be crowded with Temperance vessels, and when its shores will cease to harbour the dram-shop, and be free from the reeling step of the drunkard. This great consummation has been nearly attained along much of the Southern Shore: may it speedily be carried to a successful issue on the Northern.

Along the whole route I distributed Temperance Tracts, as often as opportunity permitted, and on the cabin cables of the steamboats, I never failed to place a supply. These were very generally read, and the greater part of them were well received. In some instances, it is true, the fashionable young men or Canal Contractors, in the cabin, would say something offensive about them, which they evidently designed me to hear; but it does not do for one who is determined to labour in the Temperance Reformation to be too sensitive.

On the Lake boat which we took at Prescott, we proceeded to Kingston. Among the passengers who came with us, were a distinguished Doctor from New York, and a General from South Carolina. I was not surprised to see the latter drink wine at dinner; but I was disappointed, I must confess, to see the physician follow his example. The General remarked, that in a journey of 1500 miles, these were the first boats in which he had seen spirituous liquors set down on the table. I answered, that I had no hopes of seeing these liquors effectually banished any where, as long as gentlemen continued to drink wine. The General and the Doctor both declared, however, that wine was quite a different thing; and we entered into a long discussion, in which I was ably assisted by the gentleman from Seneca before-mentioned. One thing is certain, when the steward came round in the River boats, I had only 2s. 6d. to pay for dinner, while the General had 7s. 7½d. viz. dinner 2s. 6d., ale 2s., wine 3s. 1½d. Here I had 5s. 1½d. clear saving, to spend in Temperance tracts, or any other way that I chose; and I did not see that I enjoyed my meal less, or lost any of the beauties of the scenery, by letting the wine and ale alone. The fact really is, the water which I drank was a pure, wholesome, delicious beverage; whilst their's was—what fermented liquors always are—stimulating or stupefying, sometimes both at once. I thought how it would astonish a superior Being, who knew the qualities of the different drinks, but was ignorant of our customs, to see certain men condemned to swallow bitter, fermented, intoxicating and poisonous liquors; whilst others got good, pure, wholesome and refreshing water; and yet learn, that the former class had to pay dear, whilst the latter had to pay nothing.

At Kingston, a large number of emigrants who had come through the Rideau Canal, came on board; and many of them had their bottles and jars newly replenished. I made a plentiful distribution of tracts, especially to those that I saw with supplies of liquor; and it was interesting to see, in a large crowded steamboat, almost every individual either reading or listening to Temperance truths, for they gathered into groups, and one read for the benefit of the others. Steamboats are very favorable places for the distribution of Temperance documents; for, as the passengers find the time tedious, they read attentively any thing that is put into their hands.

I had an argument with one of these emigrants, a Scotch mechanic, who had resided a long time in Preston, England, who said that he knew Joseph Livesy well, and added, that "Joseph was always in one mania or another. First, he had the mania of taking care of the poor: next he got into the mania of education; and now he had got into the mania of Temperance, and friend Joseph was thriving so well in this mania, that it was to be expected he

would stick to it all his life, for it was a good thing to have a profitable paper, and to get two guineas a day to go out and preach Temperance." This raised a great laugh among the passengers. I quietly remarked, that I knew of no higher objects to which human talent and energy could be directed than the judicious relief of the destitute and miserable, the education and enlightenment of mankind, and the reformation of the drunkard, and of the drinking usages and customs which were ruining more bodies and souls, than all the rest of the evils with which mankind were afflicted. If this be a mania, I added, I wish it might become epidemic; and though I had always had a high opinion of Joseph Livesey, I had now a much higher one, and I trusted that his fellow-citizens would support him liberally, as I was fully convinced no man in England better merited a rich reward. This rather damped my opponent, who said he was no advocate for drunkenness; but that teetotalism was a gross delusion, and reiterated the old arguments about alcohol being in bread, and the food undergoing fermentation in the stomach, &c.; plainly showing the necessity that exists for disseminating knowledge on the most common matters.

I was greatly shocked to see so many tipping-houses and taverns in Kingston and Toronto; as a cursory glance it would appear as if alcohol were gradually sapping and undermining the whole frame of society in these places.

I proceeded by the Falls to Buffalo, where taking the steamer for Detroit, I passed up Lake Erie. On this boat, although there was a good deal of tipping at the bar, especially in the morning; yet there was no liquor set down on the table, or called for at meals; so that one could partake of the bounties of Providence without having a bottle of liquid fire thrust under his nose. At Detroit there is a fearful array of groceries, as they are called, or drunkeries as they should be designated.

I crossed over to the Canada side, and as I was going to remain a few days, I took opportunity to converse with some of the most influential folks, about the propriety of calling a meeting, and attempting to form a Total Abstinence Society at Sandwich. They were generally favourable to the scheme, and some of them had before attempted, unsuccessfully, to form Societies on the Moderation plan. I got a book with the Constitution of a Society, and the teetotal pledge engraved; advertised a meeting at the Ferry opposite Detroit, now called Windsor, and had the satisfaction of seeing a very respectable audience of all classes and conditions assemble. Mr. Williams, our teetotal friend from Bristol, who had just arrived, was introduced to the audience by the Chairman, and made, as is usual, a very effective appeal. I followed him, and answered some objections which were made during the course of my address. I then introduced the Constitution and pledge to the attention of the meeting, and invited all those, who were disposed to become Subscribers, to come forward. Twenty individuals signed immediately, among whom were several of the most respectable inhabitants of the place; and a good number of mechanics and working men. One person who signed, said he would have been ten thousand pounds richer than he now was, had it not been for drinking, and I was informed by some persons present, that in all likelihood he spoke the truth. Another individual, a tailor, who has an excellent business, and is an honest good-hearted Englishman, when not in drink; but when tempted to excess, has sometimes been like a demon than a human being; confessed that he would be a hundred pounds a year better, if he could give up drinking. Both these individuals continued to be consistent members, I believe, as long as I staid, and I earnestly hope they are so still, as if they continue firm, a vast number of others, who are now on the verge of destruction, will come in. A second meeting was held a few days after in Sandwich Village, about two miles from the former, which was addressed by Mr. Williams, and the Rev. Mr. Cleveland, from Detroit; a gentleman who has zealously and ably advocated the cause for many years, and who had long and earnestly desired for an opportunity of extending his labours to the Canada side. At this meeting the Clergyman of the Church of England showed a noble example, not only to his flock, but to clergymen in others parts of the world, by giving the weight of his influence and name to the Society. Several other gentlemen, some of them magistrates, joined the Society at this meeting, or shortly after, and several ladies voluntarily signed the pledge, for the purpose of encouraging others, and introducing total abstinence principles into families. The Society numbered, when I left, forty-two members,

and was rapidly increasing. I give below the names of the officers who were elected to serve for the first year.\*

I likewise went down to Amherstburgh, about 14 miles below Sandwich, to co-operate with some individuals there, who were anxious to commence a Society, and I think I never met with people more zealous in the cause than some of them were.

A meeting was called which was very well attended. Mr. Williams, a local preacher, and the writer addressed the audience, and a book with constitution and pledge was submitted as at Sandwich. The Presbyterian Clergyman was the first who signed, and he was immediately followed by twenty-five more, almost all heads of families, and many of them among the most respectable persons of the place. After the public meeting, the members elected the officers-bearers, a list of whom will be given in the next *Advocate*, together with the number added to the Society. Thus, total abstinence has proudly unfurled her banner on our South Western frontier; a place where the wretchedness and degradation of drunkenness has been fearfully conspicuous; but where, I trust, drinking, with all its degrading and immoral results, has received a blow, from which it will never recover.

I requested these Societies to put themselves into regular correspondence with Montreal, and promised them supplies of Temperance documents from time to time. There were several persons in other Townships who wished to have Societies formed, but did not know exactly how to set about it; and I regretted that my time did not permit me to visit a greater number of places. If, however, Societies be not formed in my absence, I intend next summer, if possible, to visit Sarnia, the St. Clair, the Thames, and perhaps the Lake Shore, for the purpose of endeavouring to organize active Societies in these places.

I returned by steamboat along the southern Shore of Lake Erie, and was well pleased to see that the ridiculous custom of drinking wine at dinner was not introduced, except by one person who had formerly resided in a very dissipated part of Canada. I understand there is one teetotal boat on Lake Erie, the *North American*. By the bye, there are steamboats named the *Daniel Webster*, *Henry Clay*, *Thomas Jefferson*, &c. I am surprised that there is none yet named after our, who has done at all events as much, and certainly as disinterestedly as any of these great men, for his fellow citizens; I mean Edward C. Delavan.

I saw the thriving villages along the American shores of Lake Erie, with great pleasure. The inhabitants of the State of Ohio are, perhaps, the most prosperous and comfortable portion of the human family. The corn, milk, and honey, the fatness of the land, which the ancient Jews considered the maximum of things to be desired, are here common as the air of heaven, and realised, or realisable, by every individual citizen. What a pity, that whilst Ohio sends forth, as from a granary, its never-failing supplies of food, it should also pour forth a never-failing stream of fiery poison to desolate the land, in the shape of whiskey. If every drop of that whiskey which Ohio has exported so lavishly for many years, could be traced to its destination; if its effects in bar-rooms, and groceries, could be traced along the lakes, rivers, canals, and highways, of this highly favored continent; if it could be followed into the new village, the populous city, or more than all, into the, but for this, happy homes of the farmers of New York, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Canada: what would not Ohio have to answer for! what a dark cloud would settle down over her smoking distilleries, in the public mind!

I landed at Buffalo on the Sabbath morning, and was sorry to see several shops open along the wharf. If shops can be opened every where, however, on this holy day, for the sale of intoxicating liquors, I do not see that society has any right to complain of shops being opened for the sale of other and more harmless articles. Do

\*Officers of the Sandwich Township Total Abstinence Society, elected 7th August, 1837:—

President.—Charles Elliott, Esq.

Vice-Presidents.—Rev. W. Johnson, Messrs. D. Stewart and A. Unsworth.

Secretary.—Andrew Lockhart.

Treasurer.—James Dougall.

Committee of Management.—W. T. Cameron, William Williams, James Fortier, Alex. Forbes, A. Borrowman, William Clark, A. Wallace.

not let me be misunderstood as advocating the breaking of the Sabbath; I am only of opinion with the legislators of Massachusetts, that this traffic should be as much forbidden as all others on the Lord's day. At dinner, in the United States hotel, two long rooms were completely filled with company, perhaps amounting in all to 100 or 120, and not one individual drank any thing but water! It was not so ten years ago.

In returning by Lake Ontario and the Stage and Steamboat line from Prescott, I had several opportunities, particularly at dinner, of stating and defending the principles of teetotalism; and I had the satisfaction to see the passengers with whom I travelled from the head of Lake Ontario, gradually decrease their calls for intoxicating liquors, as well as their applications to the bottles on the tables, till at the last dinner all the bottles which the steward had brought in, were obliged to be carried back to the bar, except one solitary bottle of ale. It is a fact, that the presence of a testoller throws a great damp upon the inclination to drink.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

JOHN DOUGALL.

Montreal, August 19, 1837.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—Having been rescued from the power of Intemperance, I have now very different views of that vice, and the means which lead to it, from those which I once had. It fills me with amazement to see young and old, male and female, drinking as if by common consent, and justifying their conduct by pretending it *does them good, and they need it*. Good, Sir! if it does not ruin them soul and body, they will make a fortunate escape. It would be miraculous if men were not to become drunkards while these practices continue.

The young have no need, to say the least of it, of intoxicating liquors. Their blood requires no stimulant, on the contrary, it is naturally of such a temperature, that if such a stimulant be applied, it always does injury. It may be said then, that the *old* require it, for, in the decline of nature, the wheels of life move heavily, and it requires some artificial excitement to keep the machine a-going. I have been in this world above half a century—have been in all quarters of the globe, and borne the extremes of heat and cold; I think it may, therefore, be allowed that if this artificial excitement were absolutely necessary, I should have known it. But I can testify to the contrary. I need it not, and I have no desire to call to my assistance the fatal cup, that has poured a more destructive flood on the world than Noah's. If wine would recall youth, if it would make this hoary head become flaxen, and this moist eye shine as when I stood on the battle field, then I would say, come to my lips, thou renovator of decayed nature. But it is all delusion. Wine has only hastened all these symptoms of age in my case, and it will do the same in your's.

Surely females can have no pretence for using it, and it is evidently their duty, therefore, to abandon it entirely. I could mention many young women, ones virtuous, and an ornament to their families, who began to use intoxicating drinks in a moderate way, and in the short space of twelve or fourteen months, died confirmed drunkards! Not a few of them went to meet their Judge in a state of drunkenness; and I am sorry to add, that some of these scarcely knew what intoxicating liquors were, till they were taught by their husbands. Let all then, abstain, young and old, male and female. Moderate drinking is the only sign post that I know, which points out the road to the drunkard's house. I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

A COMMUTED PENSIONER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR.—In my last letter I gave you some account of my misery and degradation as a drunkard; and, in this, I shall with your leave give some account of my happiness as a testoller. I beg however to be allowed to look back to the same subject again, for when I contrast what I was with what I am I feel more happy and grateful.

Before joining the Society I had neither shirts, shoes, stockings, nor any kind of clothing, in which I could appear to public without shame. My wife was full as bad. On Sundays we were like *jail-birds*—we durst not be seen out of doors. The house we occupied had a most wretched appearance. There was neither bedding, nor furniture of any kind that any person would give me a dollar for. Besides, I was in debt. I owed the landlord ten dollars for rent. I owed tavern-keepers in various parts of the city and suburbs,

thirty-nine dollars, which was wholly for grog, except that sometimes I had a loaf from them; but this was very seldom for I always found them more unwilling to trust me something to eat than to drink.

But, now, my debt is all paid. I, and my wife and child, are decently clothed, so that we can make our appearance decently at church on Sabbath. I have paid for them, together with some articles of furniture which the house wanted, upwards of forty-eight dollars. I have, besides, ready-money to buy leather and furnishing with, to carry on my trade as a shoemaker; and my trade has increased so much, that I have constant employment for one man, besides myself, and sometimes a second. I have now a sound body, and a *clever mind*. We have no quarrels nor riots in the house, nor out of it. I am at peace with all the world, (except tavern-keepers and those that uphold them) and my mind is at peace with God. But, Mr. Editor, I cannot tell the one-half. I wish every drunkard in Montreal would come and see how happy we are, and be persuaded thereby to join the cause of total abstinence. I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Montreal, August 10, 1837.

J. SHELDRAOK.

*Selected for the Advocate.*

CAUTION.

“Let him that thinketh he standeth, take heed lest he fall,” is a caution as necessary in reference to Temperance, as it is in reference to the Christian life in general. It is a fact, as true as it is lamentable, that not a few of those who sign the pledge afterwards break it; and as this is generally not by choice, but temptation, the following cases, shewing how individuals have been overcome, may operate as a warning to others.

—— was sent for to a public house; a friend of his had brought him some work. He was offered a glass of ale, but had not sufficient courage to refuse it, and to state that he was in the Temperance Society. He drank, and was soon “overcome” in liquor.

—— was made president of a club; preferred the temptation to paying the fine. Fearing reproach from the members, took a glass in conformity to fashion, “for the good of the house,” and by this again became a drunkard.

—— after 11 months' abstinence, being poorly, was advised by a neighbour to take some brandy: he did so, and continued to drink for 4 days.

—— employed by a person whose mother kept a public house; felt consequently induced to take a glass or two, and thus broke his pledge.

—— went to his brother's funeral, and was persuaded to take a glass, and in a week or two became a drunkard.

—— being in a public house with his comrades, took some peppermint. He was told that he had broken his pledge, inasmuch as the peppermint was mixed with gin, and was intoxicating. “Well, if I have,” said he, “I might as well finish it off;” and consequently got drunk.

—— was poorly; his wife, living next door to a jerry shop, mentioned it to the jerry lady; she said she had a drop of *home made wine, without spirit*, which she was sure would do him good. For some time he refused, but by persuasion at last he consented; and it was so far without spirit, that by this he set on to drink, and became much intoxicated.

*Three things we should watch against—intoxicating drink, THE COMPANY OF TIPPLERS AND DRUNKARDS, and above all, being found in a DRINKING SHOP!*

LONDON TEMPERANCE ANNIVERSARY.

In a letter from J. S. Buckingham, Esq., member of parliament, to E. C. Delavan, Esq., dated June 11th, Mr. B. says, “The first anniversary of our Total Abstinence Society was held at Exeter Hall, just a fortnight after the

anniversary of the old, or Moderation Society, as it is called here, and I regret exceedingly that Mr. Kirk and your son were not present to see the difference. The number of the auditors present in the orchestra, hall and galleries, must have exceeded 5000 persons. The meeting began at 11 and continued till 5, and the attention and enthusiasm was maintained throughout. Earl STANNORP presided, and gave a most interesting history of his father, who at an early age, in consequence of feeble health, was sent to the Continent, where a pupil of the great Boerhave recommended to him total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks and exercise; which advice he followed through life, with the happiest effects; having renovated his constitution and lived happily to a very advanced age. He also stated that he abstained himself for the last five years from all that intoxicates, and had influenced all his tenantry to do the same with the most wonderful results; that he had now with great pleasure signed the total abstinence pledge, and that he felt himself honoured in being made president of the society; and would recommend its principle to the British nation and to the world. No first anniversary of any society ever held in England was so numerous, so brilliant, and so unanimous. The foundation is firmly laid in the hearts and understandings of the multitude, and under the blessing of Heaven, our progress will be rapid and durable."

## 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.—*Moonlight's Translation.*

MONTREAL, SEPTEMBER, 1837.

**CHEERING NEWS.**—We are happy to inform the Teetotallers of Montreal, that two tavern-keepers in St. Lawrence Suburbs, have been complaining sore of late of loss of custom. The first complains as follows—"When the Farmers about New Glasgow came to town to dispose of their produce, many of them put up at my house, and spent a considerable part of their money before they left, but now it is quit the contrary—last week I had six or eight of them, and not one of them drank a drop—I dont know what it will come to?"

The second kept tavern about four years ago in *this* Suburb, but left at that date to settle on a Farm. Not having succeeded so well on the farm, however, as was expected, the family returned to the old trade, and nearly the old stand, last spring, and contrasting the state of the trade now, with its state formerly, *mine* host complains, "I cannot sell two glasses now, for six that I sold before—I think I shall be obliged to return to the farm again." We wish them a safe journey.

### REFLECTIONS SUITABLE TO THE MERCHANT—

"The contents of this cask, which the porters are raising on Mr. Boniface's waggon, have been, for a long time, in safe custody in my cellar. But now, they are about to be ushered into the world—the spirit is about to be let loose, and who knows what mischief it may occasion before it is spent! Men are never more apt to blaspheme than when under the influence of intoxicating drink; and they are never prone to deeds of villainy, or uncleanness, or blood. Who knows then how many *blasphemies* may be contained in that cask! or how many brawls, ending perhaps in murder! Before the contents of that cask shall be finished, how many grievous pro-

vocations shall be sent up, through its means, to that God whom I profess to love and fear, and how many immortal souls perhaps sent to perdition! and can it be right to *supply the cause of all this?* I profess to love God and my neighbour, and yet send forth out of my cellar the cause by which the one is to be most grievously offended, and the other most grievously injured. No, it cannot be. I must recall it. But stay, *by this, I have my wealth.* If I destroy what is now in my cellar, and renounce the traffic hereafter, shall not my family be reduced to beggary? 2. Chron. xxv. 9. "And Amaziah said to the man of God, But what shall we do for the hundred talents which I gave to the army of Israel? And the man of God answered, *The Lord is able to give thee much more than this.*"

**A fair OPPONENT.**—A young lady was lately residing in a family, all the members of which were opposed to Temperance. The visitant was on "our side," and being provided with a copy of Wilson's excellent Temperance sermon, treated them to an extract from it. In the portion which was read, the author quoted Rom. xiv. 21. *It is good neither to eat flesh, &c.* A young lady of the family, not being aware that this sentiment was the apostle's, but supposing it to be Mr. Wilson's own, and shocked at its apparent fanaticism, immediately exclaimed, "Oh! such a man!" From this fact it is conjectured, first, that many of our would-be-scriptural opponents are very imperfectly acquainted with scripture; and second, that this verse, *when viewed without prejudice,* is a teetotal one after all.

We have received a letter from the Rev. J. Short, of Franktown, U. C. from which we extract the following testimony to the excellence of the cause. Would that all ministers of the gospel would imitate his example! "I am glad to see that the cause prospers in Montreal. Where properly conducted it cannot but prosper, for it is the cause of truth. I have been now for at least six years a member of the Temperance Society, and am more and more convinced that total abstinence from all that can intoxicate is the Christian's duty to himself and to his fellow immortals."

**QUEBEC.**—The Secretary has just received a letter from Captain Hudson, dated Quebec, August 29, announcing that a meeting had been held in the Canadian School-room, Mr. Clapham in the Chair, at which forty-nine persons signed the teetotal pledge, including the Chairman; and requesting that some speakers from Montreal would attend another meeting to be held on

Tuesday the 5th of September, for the purpose of organizing a Society.

Thus ground has been broken in Quebec, through the exertions of Captain Hudson, a gentleman who has truly laid Canada under very great obligations.

### *Progress of the Temperance Reform.*

**VISIT OF CAPTAIN HUDSON.**—Never did the cause of Temperance make such rapid progress in Montreal, as it has done since the publication of our last number. This has been chiefly owing to Captain Hudson, of the *Hartlepool*, the first Temperance Ship that has arrived at our port. Many went to see what sort of appearance a teetotal ship would present, and were gratified to see sailors that were quite pleased with their work, and at peace with one another. Captain Hudson was soon waited on by some members of the Committee of this Society, and requested to give his testimony in behalf of total abstinence. To this he cheerfully assented, and promised to bring some of his crew along with him. A lecture on Temperance from the crew of a merchant ship was a novelty, it promised much entertainment, and a large audience was consequently assembled in expectation of it. Nor were they disappointed. The Captain and his men did their duty well; they showed to the satisfaction of the audience that the "vile drug" was not necessary, neither on sea nor land, nor in storm nor calm. We shall not attempt an outline of Captain Hudson's address; suffice it to say, it was of such a nature that, though he kept the audience an hour later than usual, they would willingly have remained two longer. At the conclusion *forty-seven* signed the pledge. This was on the first of August. A second meeting was held on the tenth, which was still more numerous, and at which the fervid eloquence of the captain did still more execution, for, at the close, *sixty-two* new members subscribed. A third meeting was held on the fifteenth, which exceeded the former ones still, and at the conclusion **ONE HUNDRED** joined the Society! We may here add that *seventeen* joined the society in the intervals between the meetings, making a total of *two hundred and twenty-six* added to the Society by means of Captain Hudson.

The Society was not insensible of its obligations to him, for, at the last meeting, a handsome silver medal was presented to him by Mr. Court, the chairman, in name of the Society, amid thunders of applause. It bore the following inscription:—

"Presented to Captain Henry Hudson, of the *Hartlepool*, by the Teetotallers of Montreal, in grateful acknowledgment of his exertions in the cause of Total Abstinence. Montreal, August 15, 1837."

And on the reverse:—

"The *Hartlepool* arrived 29th of July, 1837, being the first Temperance vessel and crew which have entered the Port of Montreal."

This public mark of esteem, on the part of the Teetotallers of Montreal, is honourable both to themselves and to Captain Hudson, and to the cause which both of them have espoused, and which the latter has advocated with so much zeal and success in this city. Captain Hudson has left our port, carrying along with him the best regards, not only of the teetotallers, but of all

classes in Montreal (except tavern-keepers, &c.); and the merchants have honoured him, and given an expression of their opinions respecting Temperance at sea, by loading the *Hartlepool* with the most valuable cargo that has left the harbour this season. May he long continue to deserve and receive these honours: may he advocate teetotalism, in every port, as zealously and effectually as he has done in this—and may he soon return to enliven us again with his eloquence and wit!

**MONTREAL SOCIETY FOR PROMOTION OF TEMPERANCE.**—The second quarterly meeting of this Society, took place in the Free Chapel, St. Ann Market, on Tuesday evening, 3d ult. After prayer for the success of the cause, the minutes of the meeting of the Society held 10th July last, were read by the Secretary, who stated that the Superintendants of the tract distributors had been supplied with books, and that the "Teetotal Ledger" was also ready, for the insertion of the names of members in good standing. The Sub-Committee appointed for that purpose, reported having established two Temperance prayer meetings in addition to the one formerly held in Mr. Grafton's School-room, St. Lawrence Suburbs. The evenings and hours at which these should be held were then appointed as formerly advertised. From the Superintendants, already appointed, reports were received, which, however, embodied few facts worthy of notice. It appeared that several persons had been induced to join the Society through the means of tracts left with them. One distributor had gained access to the Barracks, in which tracts were left by him, with the prospect of good being done. The Secretary then read a statement of the number of members belonging to the Society, by which it appeared that a great addition had been made.

The number reported at the Annual Meeting, 14th February last, was	Ordinary.	T. Ab.	Total.
To which had since been added	27	134	657
	16	209	239
	240	672	912
Less			
Members dead, removed and taken off, (among the latter being 103 names from the House of Industry, obtained last winter, the Society having no means of ascertaining their standing.)	4	122	126
	236	550	786

He remarked that since Mr. Williams had addressed the meeting on 15th June, 185 signatures had been obtained to the total abstinence pledge, while only one was added to the other, and that one privately.

The public meetings held since the annual meeting were 16.

The cash book of the Temperance Advocate, showed a balance due the Treasurer of £16 8 1; his account current with the Society, however, showed an amount on hand of £2 13 5.

After considerable discussion on the propriety of making this Society Auxiliary to the Lower Canada Total Abstinence Society, it was finally agreed that the following resolution be adopted:—

"That after the first September next, this Society shall become Auxiliary to the Lower Canada Total Abstinence Society, (possessing the Total Abstinence pledge only); and that in the mean time, those members who have signed the pledge against spirituous liquors only, be respectfully and earnestly requested to sign the other previous to the above named period."

After singing a hymn, the meeting was closed.

**LOWER CANADA TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.**—The quarterly meeting of the Executive Committee of this Society, took place on the 1st ult., when John Dougall, Esq., was appointed Chairman of the Committee. A sub-committee was appointed to draw up an Appeal to the Temperance Societies of this Province, requesting them to become Auxiliary, and pressing on them the advantage of employing an efficient Agent; to solicit also their subscriptions towards this object, and urging a reply before the next meeting in November.

Two members volunteered to wait on the Roman Catholic Bishop of this place, and other Canadian gentlemen, for the purpose of obtaining their aid and countenance in establishing and supporting a Temperance Periodical in French, but from enquiries made, they were induced to consider such a step at present unlikely to be successful.

**TANNERIES DES ROLLAND.**—A meeting was held in this village on Wednesday evening the 23d August, which was attended by a considerable number of the inhabitants of the place, and Messrs Osgood, Dougall, Sheldrack, and Oliver, from Montreal, as advocates for Teetotalism. The Rev. T. Osgood was called to the chair, and short addresses were delivered by each of the persons above mentioned, which appeared to excite a lively interest. At the close of the meeting 12 individuals signed the pledge, and a second meeting was announced for Wednesday evening, the 6th September next, at the house of Mr. Brodie.

**LAPRAIRIE.**—On Monday evening last, a few of the advocates of total abstinence went over to Laprairie for the purpose of attending a public meeting, which had been previously advertised, and endeavouring to form a Teetotal Society in that village.

The meeting was rather thinly attended, which makes me think that in future we must do like English teetotallers, namely, take a bell with us, and send it round before the meeting to make sure of an audience.

The addresses of the Rev. W. Taylor, Mr. Driscoll, and Mr. Morton, produced apparently strong conviction on the minds of the audience; the writer also said a few words at the opening and close of the meeting.

We were informed that Society was in such a divided state, and that there was so much apathy in Laprairie, that we would have no chance to get more than three or four names; but such are the convincing nature of Temperance truths, that twenty-three individuals signed the pledge on the spot, many of whom, I rejoice to say, were ladies. A second meeting is to be held on Monday evening next, the 4th September, when the Society will be organized by the appointment of office-bearers.

J. D.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

THREE RIVERS, August 26, 1837.

DEAR SIR,—I hasten to communicate, through the *Advocate*, what God has done for this place, in respect to the cause of Total Abstinence. The success attending the efforts made, far surpasses the expectations even of ourselves, while our friends here are astonished. I arrived on the morning of the 23d, and found Captain

Hudson and ship; all well, and ready for the work I came to engage in. Having procured the use of the National School-room, we got the meeting advertised by bills, and through the town crier, for the same evening.

It was truly gratifying to witness the attendance and the applause with which the speakers were received, whose remarks I will endeavour shortly to notice.

Having taken the Chair, I briefly stated the object of the meeting, and alluding to the duty of acknowledging the hand of God in this glorious work, called on Captain Hudson to open with a short prayer, his men following with a hymn.

Mr. Ward, second mate, expressed his gratitude to God for being a teetotalter, and wished he had been one from his boyhood. He had narrowly escaped death from the impudence of some persons in giving him liquor, which had induced him to hate spirits ever since. He had, however, gone some time on the moderation plan, but had now been for nine months a total abstinence man, and was never better in health. What awful amount of wretchedness and crime attended the use of liquor? What was the reason that children were found bare-legged and starving, that wives were heart-broken? It was because the head of the family drank. He earnestly invited all to come forward and try the plan of abstinence.

Robert Bailey, the cook, said he had been a drunkard for eighteen years, and had seen the horrid effects of liquor in many parts of the world. In the West Indies numbers had been killed with it, and in Peru he had witnessed men stabbing one another from the same cause. While mate of a vessel, before starting on one voyage, the master dropped down dead drunk, and he had to take his place. When he came back, he had to settle the freight with the Captain, before doing which he offered to wager that in spite of the awful warning he had got, he would not be sober ten minutes after, and in truth in twenty minutes he could not stand. Drunkenness had always been the principal cause of estranging his heart from God, and since he became a teetotalter, he found himself daily experiencing an increase of religion.—(Hear.) He was now never afraid to look his Captain in the face, nor, as before in the morning, after drinking all night was his head so stupid that he did not know whether it was off or on him, till he took time to consider. (Much laughter.)

Mr. Davis, Stevedore, said he had been many years in his line, and had stowed many a ship, but had never met a quieter and finer crew. In many other ships he frequently was stopped by the men going on shore to drink, and had difficulty to get them to assist him; but in the *Hartlepool* he had only to ask for help, and every one was ready to give it.—(Hear.) The practice of giving, crying was a very bad one. The men, half an hour before, were crying out for it, and then shortly after, they would be wishing for more. He had been in the habit of taking a good deal of liquor, but was now determined to have nothing more to do with it.

James Gilbert, seaman, had been a teetotalter for some months, and could recommend it as the best plan. Sailors did not need it if they got plenty of good coffee and beef.—(Laughter.) He would tell them how they did on board ship, and, at same time that they were not hard worked, he believed as much work was done in their ship as in others. At six they began, and took breakfast at eight, and after falling to again, they left off at half-past ten for coffee. At twelve they had dinner, at half-past three coffee again; and then tea at six, as soon as they quitted work.

Captain Hudson said he had been a moderation man for some time; but as a person at a meeting said, had found it all botheration.—(Laughter.) When living on that plan, he had found himself much the worse in his soul, for he believed that the system of drinking liquor, led to a corresponding loss of the Spirit's influence. When he went on shore, he used to be taking a glass at the Baker's, then one at the Butcher's, and so on, till frequently his head was quite muddled, and still he was a temperance man. (Laughter.) Liquor was not wanted, he and his crew could do far better without it. He had never sailed with a more peaceable, orderly crew. The cause of total abstinence was spreading, and in spite of the opposition of publicans and little drop men, would go on, for God was on our side. (Want of time prevents me from noticing further the address of Captain Hudson, which was warm and convincing). After closing the meeting, a book with the total abstinence declaration was presented, and twenty-six names were obtained, among whom (praise be to God) were two of the greatest



drunkards in the town. A respected friend who had told us we would not get one name, and declined to become a teetotaler, was the first to sign. "Great is truth and shall prevail."

Next day (the 24th) Captain Hudson being unable to go down to Quebec, I intended to retrace my steps home, but was disappointed in obtaining a boat. In the course of the day we came to the conclusion to hold a Temperance Soiree in the house of a Mr. Webster, who had formerly been a tavern-keeper, but was not now in the habit of selling liquor. Having agreed to have his sign repainted, and keep open his house on total abstinence principles, it was thought proper to commence it thus. This was given out, at a religious meeting held in the Wesleyan Chapel, at which also twenty-four names were added to the total abstinence book.

On the evening of the 25th, the "Teetotal Festival," (as on the tickets,) took place, previous to which the sign-board was hoisted up inscribed "T. Webster's Temperance Inn." (I trust in future to be kept in mind by all temperance travellers, and those desirous of a quiet residence.)

The room was decorated with evergreens and flowers; and above the place where the Chairman (Captain Hudson) sat, a transparency was placed, with the words "Wine is a mocker"—"Strong drink is raging"—"Abstinence leads to happiness."

The guests were between fifty and sixty, and seemed to enjoy the cup "that cheers, but not inebriates," with much satisfaction at their landlady's arrangements. When blessing was pronounced, I addressed the meeting, and moved the formation of the Society, according to previous arrangements. The second mate, Mr. Ward, afterwards moved the officers as fellows, most of whom acknowledged their appointment by sensible and feeling remarks.

*President.*—Mr. Robert Bews.

*Vice-President.*—Mr. Lanygan.

*Secretary and Treasurer.*—Mr. E. Perkins.

*Committee.*—Messrs. C. Kiernan, H. Clarke, W. Rosborough, J. Kennedy, M. Gordon.

At the conclusion of the meeting, some temperance hymns were sung, and before I left, nine names were added to the Society, making in all fifty-nine; and let it be remembered this has taken place after every one we spoke to declared, it was impracticable to form a Society, or even get a single name to the total abstinence pledge. Twenty copies of the *Temperance Advocate* have also been ordered.

I am, dear Sir, your's truly,

JAMES COURT,  
C. Sec. Lower Canada T. A. Society.

**LACHINE.**—No place in the Lower Province seems to need zealous efforts to spread tee-total principles, more than this, as almost every third house sells liquor. Can none of our friends get up a meeting there?

**ST. JOHNS.**—A great revival has taken place here in the cause of total abstinence, principally through the means of Captain Hudson, particulars of which the Secretary has neglected to send us. We have heard, however, that the Society has become auxiliary to the Lower Canada Total Abstinence Society, and is likely to become very efficient.

**CHAMBLY.**—The members resident here are bestirring themselves to pay an old debt due us: a very favourable sign of re-awakening zeal.

**CORNWALL, U. C.**—Efforts are making to form a Society here, which, it is hoped, will be successful, as this place stands greatly in need of reform.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

Sir,—I have the pleasure to inform you that, on Monday the 7th current, we had a most pleasant Temperance meeting in Leeds. The attendance was good, and the greatest attention given. We commenced by prayer by Mr. John Borland, Missionary for the County of Megantic, who read some very interesting extracts from your *Advocate*, which gave much pleasure. Several addresses were delivered, and seven new members subscribed the pledge. The number that evening was fifty-five. This you will think but a small number; but when I tell you that in the summer of 1822 there were only four families in the Township, it will tell better. What gave great pleasure was, the spirit of friendship and affection which prevailed during the meeting, and at the close. Mr. Borland is a very useful man, both in the capacity of a Gospel and a Temperance missionary. We have now in this Township a Temperance Travellers' Home, kept by Mrs. Dalon, and a Temperance Store. The meeting was closed by singing a paraphrase, and prayer.  
Leeds, L. C., August 21, 1837. ALEX. RUSSELL, Chairman.

We give with pleasure, the following interesting letter from Clarence, U. C., dated July 30:—

Sir.—On Wednesday the 12th instant, the Foxes' Point Temperance Society held its semi-annual meeting; and, should you consider the few following particulars concerning it, calculated to interest the readers of the *Advocate*, their insertion will increase the benefit of that occasion.

This Society, like too many of a similar kind, was beginning to evince symptoms of decay; and the interest formerly taken in its important object had so far abated, that the period for holding the annual meeting in January last (the only meeting then held in the year), was allowed to pass unobserved. Somewhat startled at this criminal apathy, a few of the more active members succeeded in getting up a meeting towards the close of winter, at which it was considered, that in order to be more efficient, it was necessary that more frequent and regular Committee meetings should be held; and that two general meetings should also be held in the year; both of which measures were adopted. Accordingly, the semi-annual meeting was held, as mentioned above.

In view of the meeting, the Committee, feeling particularly anxious to render it as useful as possible, thought the addition of a tea-party at the close of the usual exercises, might have a happy effect in fostering a friendly feeling among the members, they therefore made arrangements for that purpose.

Most of those who addressed the meeting advocated the necessity of the Total Abstinence Pledge, an opinion which appears to obtain very generally; and, I doubt not, will ultimately prevail, and be adopted by every Society. This one has so far advanced towards it, that on this occasion it passed a Resolution that the Total Pledge should be received and sanctioned by the Society; but at the same time not to exclude from membership, such as choose only to subscribe the old pledge. In consequence of the non-attendance of some friends from a distance, who were expected to support the weight of the exercises, a very tame and unprofitable meeting was anticipated. But, rallied by the emergency, the members seemed to call up some of their pristine zeal, and the cause was feelingly and efficiently pleaded. Those already enlisted seemed animated to fresh efforts; and several unaided themselves with the Society.

This part of the meeting having closed, a general invitation was given to all members of Temperance Societies to be present at the tea-party; preparations for which were immediately made, by supplying tables, made for the occasion, with abundance of tea, pies, and cakes; when about seventy sat down in pleasing and friendly sociality, and partook of the good things of Providence, chiefly the products of their own farms, feeling thankful that the day has arrived, when the courtesies of life, and the occasions of festivity, can be satisfactorily conducted, without calling in the aid of that which, though formerly esteemed the promoters of hilarity, is now justly regarded as biting worse than a serpent, and possessing a sting more venomous than an adder. Some appropriate pieces were sung on the occasion, and the whole passed off with pleasure and profit. I doubt not if similar measures were adopted by other Societies, the benefit would be apparent, in waking them up from that lethargy into which so many have fallen. Nor is the expense so great, at least in country places, as to afford an objection, where each can supply some of what they have; and the ladies, if as accommodating and zealous as they are here, will feel a pleasure in undertaking the principal management of preparing for such a feast.

I am, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

WILLIAM JAMIESON, Foxes' Point T. S.

In the remote and mountainous districts of Dalby and Glenman, Isle of man, hitherto considered as the most abandoned and drunk-ent neighbourhoods in the Island, tee-totalism has made such progress as to reduce the number of tipplers in those districts, containing a population of about 900, to six or eight individuals, who are now the only frequenters of the public house, or in any way the promoters of drunkenness,—while the consternation and alarm produced among the brewers and publicans have promoted them to offer their jerry-wag at 2d. or even 1d. per quart! All these results we attribute to the exertions of a few zealous advocates, among whom we are glad to find a local preacher and some of the members of the Wesleyan connexion.

## T. WEBSTER'S TEMPERANCE INN,

NEXT TO BELL'S WHARF,  
THREE RIVERS.

Accommodation of every kind afforded Travellers, excepting intoxicating-Liquors.

Tea, Coffee, and Refreshments, to be had at all times.

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