

Rowley Hill  
South Street

6144

N. S. I. H.

HALIFAX:

Printed at the 'Wesleyan' Office, 125 Granville Street.

1877.

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N. S. H.

Printed at the Western Office, 125 Franklin Street.  
HALLAZ.  
1877.

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## A STRUGGLE TO RISE.

"Hark! Drums and fifes heading a procession, and coming this way. Let us stand aside until they have passed," and, ascending the narrow steps of a door-way, we awaited their approach. "Bless me," said our friend, "what a strange-looking assemblage"; but on they passed, and we were about to pursue our course, when the strains of music from a second band warned us the passage was not yet clear, and on came another long line, anon, succeeded by a third band, indicating that 'still they came.'

'Twas a strange gathering—a motley crowd—the majority seemed as though they were the denizens of alleys and back streets, and questionable localities; and the furtive glances of some, as they passed hurriedly on, implied that they were not quite assured of their right to perambulate so respectable a locality, in so public a manner. More than one, as the procession turned into Hollis from George Street, almost instinctively stepped out of the ranks toward the Police Station, possibly being more familiar with that route.

As we marked the unsteady movements of some we experienced an inclination to smile, not diminished by the odd grimacery of a few who imparted to the scene the idea of revellers at large; but this sensation was only momentary, a closer scrutiny sobered us into thoughtfulness. As the flickering light of the red glare of torches, carried in their hands, fell on their countenances, it revealed an intensity that bespoke men deeply in earnest—men moved by one common, but no ordinary, impulse,—bent on a purpose pregnant with momentous consequences to themselves.

As the last bespattered few, whose enervated limbs were

unequal to the enforced speed, came halting by, we could not repress a sigh, and mutually implored a blessing on 'The Reform Club.'

That night's scene proclaimed the strong desire in the fallen for their own rescue. The one more effort is made—call it spasmodic if you will—nevertheless the *effort* to clutch at a new hope set before those out of whom nearly all hope had been crushed,—an effort, not this time to be made *singly*, and *therefore* hopelessly, but in unison with others, each of whom, as a unit, had been equally unsuccessful in the past. "Union is strength." Further, it told that that poor demented, abandoned one is not totally insensible to his condition. is not so willing a victim as you and I have pronounced him. On the contrary, sighing and groaning for the liberty he once knew, he is struggling for freedom, and the struggle is a terrible one from the antagonism he encounters within. Unable to break away unaided, he has heretofore sunk down again and again, a powerless slave under the awful dominion of his destroyer.

With the conviction of the reality of this futile struggle, and in some measure realizing it in its woful and unexaggerated aspect, the Directors of the Inebriate Home have, through another twelve months, persevered in their efforts to aid such struggling ones to extricate themselves from their thralldom. In withdrawing them from all extraneous influences, and placing them in an asylum, that by its purer atmosphere, as well as homely surroundings, appeals so potently to latent memories of early and happier days, lies our chief hope. Within each bosom a chord, though long untouched, has been too permanently strung not to vibrate at the magic name of "Home." A home in which there is nothing to reproach by contrast, the inmates, and even the managing head, having all been in the same position, and therefore having a community of interest and feeling.

It is for the want of such provision that the majority of

efforts at cure or reformation fail. Little stress can be laid upon any pledges or combinations whilst the subject is necessarily compelled, by his daily avocations, during the effort at reform, to co-mingle with old associates and breathe the same contaminating influences; and therefore the superlative advantage of an Institution to which the invalid can retire during his effort to regain his moral and physical strength, and become isolated from the fascinations of his late enslaving habits.

What have been the results? A record of pages, were we justified in lifting the veil from the privacy that makes a home so sacred, would repay their perusal, and is requisite in order rightly or appreciatingly to judge the results; but, fully sensible of our obligation to our patients, we can only vaguely allude to a few instances, which will be found at the end of this report.

There have been, as in the last year, cases that have resulted unfavorably; but these have been more than set off by the number that have been hopefully reclaimed. Such can be pointed out, both in the city and in the towns, as well as in the country parts of the province, whose reformation has elicited marked notice, and, as attestations to our success, have gained warm friends to the Institution, besides which the Superintendent has received gratifying communications from patients of the previous year, testifying to the continued benefit received from their sojourn in the Home.

As intimated in our last report, and in reference to the number above alluded to as leaving the establishment but little benefitted, it is still to be regretted that none seem inclined to take advantage of the Act to interdict, and thereby compel their intemperate friends to remain in an asylum provided for their benefit for a time sufficient to prove beneficial. This salutary restraint, in the majority of such cases, affords the only hope of reclaiming them. Indeed, as

a rule, the stay of even voluntary patients at the Institution is too short.

As thus far those who have entered the Home have done so voluntarily, it corroborates the more strongly what has been advanced at the commencement of this report, as to the desire of the inebriate to be saved. Some have come with this purpose even from a distance.

As many non-paying patients are admitted, the want of funds is of course felt, which limits, and, unless remedied, will do so to an increased extent, the benefit that it was hoped to extend to a class that otherwise will not be reached, and whose restoration would not only bless the individual and those connected with him, but be a benefit and gain to society.

In this connection we would again draw attention to the undoubted claim that such an establishment has upon the funds arising from fines exacted for drunkenness and violations of the liquor law, a claim now admitted and met in many cities of the Union. And we would ask temperance organizations to make the support of such an Institution as the Inebriate's Home a prominent feature of their work.

Whilst several generous donations have been made during the year, no subscriptions have been called for since the commencement of the work, now upwards of two years past; but as the monthly receipts from paying patients do not average half the annual cost of provisions, &c., for the whole establishment, an appeal will have to be again made to the public, who are too much interested in the success of this work to allow it to fail for want of support. The reduced grant this year by the Provincial Legislature does not quite meet the Superintendent's salary and rent of premises, although the latter has been materially reduced; and were it not that the previous years' Legislative grant is credited in this year's account, as well as the current years, there would have been a large deficit.

The attention of the ministers of the various denominations in the city has been specially called to the Institution by committees appointed to respectively wait on them for that purpose.

The Board again acknowledge, with much thankfulness, the liberality of the press in supplying papers gratuitously, and inserting notices free of charge; also, the voluntary gifts of friends, as acknowledged from time to time, and the continued material support of the Legislature, and a bequest received from the executors of the late Mr. R. Noble; and would specially record the valuable services rendered, and great interest taken in the Institution by Dr. Lewis, of Dartmouth, who has been unremitting in his attentions thereto.

For a synopsis of the origin, purpose, mode of procedure, regulations, and a compendium of the Act of the Legislature, and other particulars, see last report for 1875-6.

The statistics and Treasurer's account are appended.

## Tabular Review of Patients admitted 1876-7.

No. of Patients Admitted and Re-admitted during the year	- - - - -	79
Discharged	- - - - -	59
In the Home	- - - - -	20
		79

### NATIVITY.

Nova Scotia	- - - - -	42
Scotland	- - - - -	11
England	- - - - -	10
Cape Breton	- - - - -	6
Ireland	- - - - -	4
New Brunswick	- - - - -	3
Newfoundland	- - - - -	2
United States	- - - - -	1
		79

### OCCUPATION.

Lawyers. Merchants. Carpenters. Printers. Tailors. Butchers. Bakers. Fishermen. Stone-cutters. Coopers. Miners. Tanners.		Tinsmiths. Cabinet Makers. Blacksmiths. Shoemakers. Saddlers. Agents. Bookkeepers. Sailors. Photographers. Telegraph Operators. Clerks. Labourers.
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### DENOMINATIONALLY.

Catholics	- - - - -	23
Episcopal	- - - - -	17
Methodist	- - - - -	18
Presbyterian	- - - - -	19
Baptist	- - - - -	2
		79

Married 32.

Single 47.



1. Of the foregoing, at least twenty-five were young men taken from the Police Office, and who would have been committed to prison from inability to pay the fine imposed, but that at the request of the Superintendent of the Inebriate's Home, who constantly attends to watch such cases, they were handed over to his charge. Of this number, on their dismissal, only *five* have returned to their old habits.

Apart from the impending career from which the *twenty* were saved, taking only into account the expence saved to the city, are we wrong in what we have advanced in pleading for civic aid.

2. About nine months since a wretched object was received from the same too plentiful source of supply and treated in the Home. The sympathy he experienced drew from him the information that he had a wife in England from whom his intemperance had estranged him. Without dwelling on the part taken by ourselves leading to so happy a result, we will only say that to-day he is re-united to his wife, residing in London, and as grateful letters from both assure us, with the prospect of a bright future before them.

3. Another, broken down, rejected by friends and a bane to society, voluntarily sought refuge in the Institution. After a stay of some months he has returned to his home in a country town a new man, and is to-day the joy of his household and respected by the community in which he is usefully employed; inspiring by his reformation a strong faith in the efficacy of the Institution and in favor of effort even for the most hopeless.

4. One more, and we stop. A patient entered the Institution in a semi-maniacal condition, he had been a terror to his neighborhood and the dread of his wife and family. He is now one of the happiest of our citizens doing a thriving business, and cherishes so strong a regard for the Home that he not only contributes of his means toward its support, but has more than once re-visited it with friends to afford an evening's

entertainment to the inmates, on which occasions, he, in a manly way, referred to his own case as a means of encouragement, giving particulars of what he was, taking them to the room he once occupied and pointing to the bed on which he slept that terrible night when he first entered the Institution.

These are samples taken from several of a like nature. Do they recommend the Institution to your support?



THE ABOVE IS THE  
**REPORT FOR 1876-7.**  
 OF THE

## Nova Scotia Inebriate Home

LOCATED AT DARTMOUTH, N. S.,

*Licensed by Lt.-Governor in Council, Oct. 1877, pursuant to Sec. 16 of Act chap. 24, 1875.*

Dr. Cr.  
**The Home for Inebriates in account with the Treasurer.**

<p>1877.            July 1.—To salary of Supt. to 14th June last - \$ 500.00            “ “ Disbursements for twelve months 1907.71            “ “ Rent of premises from Dec. 1875 to 1st May last 616.66            “ “ Balance in hand - - - - - 430.80</p>	<p>1876.            July 1.—By Balance per account - - - - - \$ 249.95            “ 6. “ Grant from Province Nova Scotia 1000.00            “ 12. “ Bequest from Estate late R. Noble 200.00            Dec. 31. “ Interest from People's Bank on \$2200 to date - - - - - 128.05</p> <p>1877.            June 15.—By Grant from Province N. S. - - - - - 800.00            July 1. “ Board received from inmates to date - - - - - 828.90            “ “ Subscriptions, Col. in Church and Donations - - - - - 248.27</p>
<p><u>\$3455.17</u></p>	<p><u>\$3455.17</u></p>
<p>July 1.—By Balance in hand - - - - - \$430.80</p>	<p>July 1.—By Balance in hand - - - - - \$430.80</p>

Halifax, N. S., July 1st, 1877.

GEO. H. STARR, TREASURER.

DONATIONS FROM 1st JULY '76, TO  
1st JULY '77.

Mrs. Cullen, per Dr. Parker	10 00
Union Centre Thanksgiving, collected per Rev. J. F. Forbes. }	5 83
T. B. Aikins	25 00
St. Paul's, per Rev. Dr. Hill	72 58
Dr. A. C. Cogswell	10 00
Judge Marshall	4 00
Mrs. S. N. Binney	20 00
Lady Visitors of Athenæum Division Sons of Temperance }	6 72
P. Jack	5 00
R. D. LeCain	6 65
Rev. Dr. Burns	5 00
North Star Division	25 00
E. Jost	5 00
Geo. Milson	8 00
Jos. W. Allan	4 54
J. Lawler	2 50
J. P. Mott	2 00
Gough Temperance Com	30 45
	\$248 27

**THE**  
**SECOND ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**NOVA SCOTIA INEBRIATE HOME,**  
**1876--7**

Was held at the Acadia Office, Bedford Row, Halifax, on the afternoon of Tuesday, 23rd October, 1877, at which the foregoing Report and Treasurer's Account were read and approved.

An amendment to the Constitution was sanctioned and the members of the last year's Board re-appointed.

The attendance was good and represented the interest taken in the work by influential citizens, some of whom spoke in gratifying terms of the operations of the Institution.

**OFFICERS:**

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**President.**

HON. D. McNEIL PARKER, M.D., M. L. C.

**Directors.**

W. J. COLEMAN, J. Y. PAYZANT, D. FARRELL,	EDW. SMITH, CHARLES ROBSON, J. W. SMITH.
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**Treasurer.**

GEO. H. STARR.

**Secretary.**

E. LLOYD.

**Attending Physicians.**

J. A. LEWIS, M. D. | JAS. VENABLES, M. D.

**Superintendent.**

H. S. K. NEAL.