

Technical and Bibliographic Notes / Notes techniques et bibliographiques

The Institute has attempted to obtain the best original copy available for filming. Features of this copy which may be bibliographically unique, which may alter any of the images in the reproduction, or which may significantly change the usual method of filming, are checked below.

L'Institut a microfilmé le meilleur exemplaire qu'il lui a été possible de se procurer. Les détails de cet exemplaire qui sont peut-être uniques du point de vue bibliographique, qui peuvent modifier une image reproduite, ou qui peuvent exiger une modification dans la méthode normale de filmage sont indiqués ci-dessous.

- Coloured covers/
Couverture de couleur
- Covers damaged/
Couverture endommagée
- Covers restored and/or laminated/
Couverture restaurée et/ou pelliculée
- Cover title missing/
Le titre de couverture manque
- Coloured maps/
Cartes géographiques en couleur
- Coloured ink (i.e. other than blue or black)/
Encre de couleur (i.e. autre que bleue ou noire)
- Coloured plates and/or illustrations/
Planches et/ou illustrations en couleur
- Bound with other material/
Relié avec d'autres documents
- Tight binding may cause shadows or distortion
along interior margin/
La reliure serrée peut causer de l'ombre ou de la
distorsion le long de la marge intérieure
- Blank leaves added during restoration may appear
within the text. Whenever possible, these have
been omitted from filming/
Il se peut que certaines pages blanches ajoutées
lors d'une restauration apparaissent dans le texte,
mais, lorsque cela était possible, ces pages n'ont
pas été filmées.

- Coloured pages/
Pages de couleur
- Pages damaged/
Pages endommagées
- Pages restored and/or laminated/
Pages restaurées et/ou pelliculées
- Pages discoloured, stained or foxed/
Pages décolorées, tachetées ou piquées
- Pages detached/
Pages détachées
- Showthrough/
Transparence
- Quality of print varies/
Qualité inégale de l'impression
- Continuous pagination/
Pagination continue
- Includes index(es)/
Comprend un (des) index

Title on header taken from: /
Le titre de l'en-tête provient:

- Title page of issue/
Page de titre de la livraison
- Caption of issue/
Titre de départ de la livraison
- Masthead/
Générique (périodiques) de la livraison

Additional comments: /
Commentaires supplémentaires:

This item is filmed at the reduction ratio checked below /
Ce document est filmé au taux de réduction indiqué ci-dessous.

10X	14X	18X	22X	26X	30X
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12X	16X	20X	24X	28X	32X

The Saturday Evening Visitor ;

A Cheap Family Paper,

DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, EDUCATION, MORALITY, &c. &c

VOL. I.

SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 15, 1842.

NO. 1.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE WAYSIDE,

AN ADDRESS, DELIVERED BEFORE THE HALIFAX TEMPERANCE SOCIETY, BY W. M. BROEN.

When hoary winter has passed away, and the vernal Sun with daily increasing strength, disrobes the Earth of its mantle of white; then the ice-bound rivulet and the rolling river, once more set free, and rejoicing in their liberty, bear a host of willing tributaries onward to the mighty main. The genial rains are poured plentifully into the bosoms of the fields, and the husbandman prepares the loosened soil, and scatters his seed; in due time the tender blade appears, in profusion rewarding his toil and sustaining his hope. All nature teems with budding beauty, and like a bounding infant, delights in its new and happy existence: rock, hill and dale seem vying with each other for pre-eminence in loveliness. Trees and shrubs appear in robes of leaf and blossom, of varied shades and infinite diversity of form and hue, and the Wayside sward in its new attire of emerald brightness, is courting the attention of the traveller. The undulating and sometimes shady banks on either hand, are generally covered with flowers, nature's voluntary bestowments, of every size and colour, and sweetly intermingled; delightful in odour and lovely to view, they captivate the eye and elevate the soul.

Here the sweet fern and the thistle appear most romantic, and are striving to excel each other in stature; and here the Mayflower, with others of modest and delicate beauty, is contending with its more lofty and showy rivals for the warm attentions of the youthful Sun; while the ivy green entwined amid the clustering leaves, seems the necessary adornment to the faultless combination. The mossy mossbank charms with its deep and varying greenness; while above, the spreading Beech tree lends a pleasing shade at the noonday, and bending to the breeze, bears it upward gentle and joyously. Here the feathered songsters tell the tale of "their true love," and in courtship to their mates "pour forth their little souls"—and the wayside here resounds with melody.

Rolling from the rock, the cool and grateful rill invites the passer by, and rushes to his lip with foaming ecstasy. Cattle, with sheep, and beautiful lambs, in the very spring of their pride of their tottering prettiness" are regaling on the banks of the spontaneous and luxuriant herbage.

All these, and many more, are the delights of the lonely wayside in the spring time, while the populous parts display their peculiar features; warming the heart to social life and the pleasures of domestic life, and melting it with sympathy for the unfortunate. The flower garden, well tended, in front of the whitewashed cottage, shows the skill and industry of the occupants; and a throng of lovely children rushing forth, are as happy as the lambs with whom they gambol on the wayside. Delighted, they meet their father returning to his home, all clamorous to relate some

tale of wondrous moment to the little circle, now retiring to their dwelling; where pleasant looks and words of love tell of joy deep seated and the heart sincere. At the gate beyond, with his grandson by the hand, stands the father of the village. Revered by his friends, beloved by his offspring, in possession of all the needful comforts of earth, and enjoying places of trust and confidence; his delight is to comfort the mourners, and like his Heavenly Father, he deeth good even to the evil and the unthankful—

"Thus on he moves to meet his latter end,
Angels around befriending Virtue's friend;
Sinks to the grave with unperceived decay,
While resignation gently slopes the way;
And all his prospects brightening to the last,
His Heav'n commences ere the world be past."

Here stands the house of Prayer and the School house, and there is the burial ground, where rest the ashes of some, who, unknown to fame, "fought the good fight" and finished their course with joy. Near at hand is the licensed grog house of this peaceful neighbourhood, and many a heart-broken mother as she passes, sorrows more at the recollection of the moral degradation and awful death of her once loved ones than for her own bereavement. The Demon Intemperance extends his sway to the distant village and the solitary hamlet, sorrow and poverty follow his steps; the widow pines in solitude and destitution; her children are gone from her side and scattered abroad in a cold and heartless world, and the husband of her youth is among the many victims in the churchyard.

The wayside is the grand observatory of life. From the cradle to the grave, in every possible variety of circumstances, the sons and daughters of the human family, intent on their pleasures, their profits, or their charities, with every shade of motive, in every fashion of habiliament, and countless peculiarities of form and feature, are all moving to and fro in the great highways, in the pursuit of some real or fancied good, which excites their avarice or provokes desire. These waysides, in Town, are crowded with buildings of various descriptions, all exercising by the aid of their proprietors or occupants a power for good or ill, and proving a real benefit or injury to all who frequent them.

There with a goodly array of bottles is the Drug shop, where potent pill and powder may be had for a few pence, that may set pain and infirmity at defiance, and keep the King of Terrors at a respectful distance. The advertizing professors delight in cases of difficulty, they solemnly affirm that their pills were never known to want success; and notwithstanding all this, there are many here who now and then think proper to be sick. Near him is the Tailor, who with shears and pad can make up a shoulder, and delights in the charitable work of restoring the human form to its pristine beauty and symmetry. There is the politician who lives for the public good, and enjoys but little peace or comfort himself; vainly hoping, with the decayed materials of un sanctified humanity, to erect a structure perfect in its proportions and enduring as the heavens. The Theatre,

that professed school of Virtue, with its declining glories, still holds its place by the wayside, and there the Juggler sometimes performs his wondrous feats; while the Lawyer and the Artizan, the Merchant and the Shopman, the Butcher and the Baker, each intent upon their gains, eagerly and anxiously pursue their avocations; many Jugglers in their way, living by the sleight of hand or head, and with others, active and needful parts in the great civilized and social edifice, pillered and supported by the real or imaginary wants of their fellows.

There is the dram shop in the centre of a poor neighbourhood, draining its resources and supplying the maddening bowl; while the rags and the filth, the moral debasement, the pauperism, the naked and puny children, hungry, cold and ignorant, that abound in the vicinity, show its melancholy influence, its withering effects. Then there is the respectable grocery, where nicely sealed and labelled the dangerous messenger issues forth, and is conveyed to the dwellings of the rich in the more fashionable waysides. The sturdy idler, with his bloated visage, gives a piteous account of his marvellous afflictions; the shipwreck in which he lost his health and his money; his rheumatisms, his sick wife or starving children; while his tell tale breath lessens the effect, and shews the chief cause of the poor wretch's many woes and infirmities. There, by the wayside with her helpless innocents, and in the inclement season, may sometimes be seen the wife of the poor emigrant; strangers in a strange land, in search of their earthly protector, and meeting the frowns of a cold world. Who can withhold the much needed pittance from these children of sorrow?

But to enumerate all that the observant eye might notice, and that the reflective man would profit by, is a task quite beyond what the limits of this address will allow. The house of Prayer in many places raises its tall spire by the wayside, and the thronging multitudes that pursue their way there on the Sabbath, each where his heart approves, is one of the many tokens of the favored circumstances in which we are placed. Scarce less important is the Sabbath school, where infant hearts and voices are instructed in the praise of Him, who requires the purity of childhood in all his accepted worshippers. Then the Religious book repository, the Mechanic's Institute and the Literary Society are all objects worthy of your attention; and here by the wayside, in this humble building we meet in peace and I hope in a right mind to aid the cause of Temperance.

Here we invite the young to come and unite with us for their own preservation, and from the Holy principle of Christian Love, that others may profit by their example. Their unblemished minds and honest hearts at once assent to truths and motives so palpable and noble; and by such evidence as this we are confirmed in our views and repaid for our toil. Here we relate our own experience of the benefits of a temperate life, and present abundant testimony from a host of witnesses, invincibly conclusive in our favour, and silencing the gainsayers. Ours is not an association of persons who cannot refrain from the deadly draught without solemn pledges, but we are urged onward in the good work that evil and woe may be prevented. We have seen much by the wayside; we have read, we have heard by tale and history of men running counter to all the regulations of

nature; of fires, murders, shipwrecks, lunacy, Sabbath breaking, unkindness to parents, unmerciful treatment of children; all that is shocking to humanity and virtue and subversive of order; all that can embitter life and cause destruction of property; all these are the offspring of the baneful habit of taking Strong Drink. And thus is this goodly Temple of Nature, of which we are for a time the privileged occupant, made the very antipodes of that scene of blessedness and purity in which our first parents were placed, by the abundant grace and goodness of their divine and beneficent Creator.

And can any (with these awful consequences so apparent as to be wholly undeniable) feel sure that he will never be an actor in these infernal orgies, while he employs to any extent the fiery agent that produces them? Those who have fallen were once as strong as you, and perhaps, with boastful and deriding words assailed the man of abstinence; but they have given melancholy proof that "Touch not, taste not, handle not," is the motto of the prudent, and therefore we say "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall." Ours is also a moral compact to unloose the fetters of the Drunkard, to raise his fallen intellect, heal his moral sickness, and to pour the healing balm of hope and joy into the almost broken heart of the despairing wife and aged mother. "Union is strength," and by our frequent meetings and combined efforts, we shall progress more rapidly towards the accomplishment of our wishes. We believe that "Water is as well adapted to man's natural appetite, as to the physical wants of his organs. It is the grand beverage of organized nature." The huge Elephant, "with gentle might enowwed," needs not the aid of alcohol for the support of his frame; the Deer is fleet of foot, and the bounding Lion and Tiger are vigorous and agile without it; so man, when he conforms to nature, and consults only the real wants of his body, finds improved health, unruffled temper, increased buoyancy of spirits, and is freed from many evils that a contrary course would bring inevitably upon him.

I have much pleasure in stating, that the year which is now drawing to a close has produced much to encourage the friends of Temperance. The highest Medical authorities have declared unanimately in favour of our principles, and recommended our practice. Many able works have issued from the press, and operated on the whole mass of society. The grand division of the Teetotal Army under the Reverend Father Matthew is now increased to five millions in number, many distilleries have been closed, and public entertainments and festivals in populous cities, have passed unstained by riot or by crime. In the neighbouring Republic, the celebration of their independence on the Anniversary last past, was marked by a more rational rejoicing than any former occasion exhibited: and here in our little Province, which is but a Wayside of the great Empire to which we glory in being attached, we see abundant cause for a cheerful continuation of our labours. We may enumerate, the increasing demand for Temperance publications, to which I can bear joyful witness. The formation of many new societies, and revival of old ones. The growing importance of our own association, numbering 500 members more than when the year began. The conductors of the public journals are ever ready to give their por-

erful assistance. The Venerable Bishop and the Clergy of the Roman Catholic Church have come forth as strong men to the contest; and have overthrown customs, which had their strong holds in the solemn and joyous recollections of men, being associated in the mind with loved and honored beings who had long passed away. Holy men belonging to other portions of the Christian Church, have been and are now with us in the work. We have a diligent committee, our meetings are more frequent and better attended, we have missionaries employed, and we shall soon have a periodical to proclaim the progress of the work of Love. The Medals that are worn as tokens of Membership evince a pride in the principle and zeal for its extension. Gratitude for our own preservation should appear in our conduct; an approving conscience and the blessings of the reformed are our reward; and we always feel pleased and encouraged when we see so many fair and happy faces in our little Temperance meeting at the Wayside.

For the Visitor.

A SKETCH.

It was a cold December night,
The snow fell thick and fast,
And my heart was sad for all exposed,
To that keen, wintry blast!
But I looked into a pleasant home,
Well sheltered from the breeze,—
It was not the abode of state,
But that of wealth and ease.
The eve's repast was on the board,
The fire was glowing bright,
And round the crimson draped walls,
It shed a cheerful light.
A lovely woman I beheld,
And, seated by her side,
Was he, who, happy years ago,
Had claimed her as his bride.
The merry tones of children there,
Were ringing, glad and free,
As they clung unto their father's arm,
Or sported round his knee,—
And as he view'd their happy play,
And press'd each dimpled cheek,
The parent's and the husband's pride,
Were more than words could speak.
One thing alone I saw, that cause
For sorrow could afford,
The wine cup, like a serpent's eye,
Was gleaming on the board!
As night drew on, the sounds of praise
Ascended sweetly there,
And then each little hand was clasped,
Each bright head bowed in prayer;—
I saw the parents bless their babes,
I heard the fond "Good night,"
And soon those happy forms were wrapt,
In slumbers, calm and light.

Again had Winter bared the trees,
And robed the fields in snow,
The sky was dark with heavy clouds,
A piercing wind did blow.

In a small room, around a fire,
Which threatened soon to fail,
A little group of children stood,
With hollow cheeks and pale:
The joyous, bounding, heart of youth,
Seemed to have left each form,
As ever and anon they looked
Out on the driving storm!
Their heart-sick mother sat beside,
Her infant's little bed,
It turned its tearful eyes to her's,
And feebly asked for bread,—
She raised it in her arms, and clasped
It closely to her breast,
While o'er it fell the bitter tears,
Which long had been repress'd.
She was the once fair, happy, wife,
But, Oh, how alter'd now!
The rose had left her cheek, and care
Was written on her brow.—
What wonder, if, while roved her eyes,
Around that cheerless scene,
And mem'ry conjured up the thoughts,
Of what she once had been,—
In the recesses of her heart,
The fatal cause she cursed,
Which robb'd of ev'ry comfort, those,
In luxury, once nursed.
But not for her own pain or care,
Did that sad woman mourn,—
Hardship and toil, without a sigh,
She carefully had borne!
But thus to see the blight of shame,
Upon her children cast;
To see, into a drunkard's grave,
Her husband sinking fast;—
Oh, this it was that wrung her heart
With deepest, direst, wee;
This caused, when all around was still,
The bitter tears to flow!
But, hark! her husband's step.—poor babes,
Why run ye not to greet,
Your father's form? why place ye not
His old accustomed seat?
Is it a dream, or standeth he
Indeed, before me now?
Gone is the proud and stately step,
The high, commanding, brow!
And although altered be his form,
By that debasing sin;
Yet oh, more strangely, sadly, changed,
The mind, the man within!
The joys of home, of love, afford
No pleasure to his soul,—
Beast-like, he turns from them, to seek,
To drain, the madd'ning bowl:—
Ascended once within his home,
The sound of praise and prayer,
Ah, now the drunkard's song alone,
The drunkard's oath are there!
Ask ye what wrought this fearful change?
He loved to see the wine

Upon his hospitable board,
 With dangerous lustro shine.
 He know the mischief it had wrought,
 Yet, futile boast and vain !
 "The weak may fall," he proudly cried,
 "I can myself restrain !"
 And sleeping thus, in fancied strength,
 On ruin's verge he ran,
 He woke, to find himself, alas !
 A fallen, fostered, man !
 Remorse is knawing at his heart,
 While ever to his eye,
 When reason reigns, present themselves,
 The scenes of days gone by.
 And when, their stinging memory,
 To still he vainly tries,
 Back to the baneful curse of all,
 Despairingly he flies !

Curse of mankind ! thou fruitful source
 Of pain, of crime, and woe !
 When shall thy poisonous waters cease,
 O'er this fair earth to flow ?
 Pleasant and beautiful it is
 When round the graceful vine,
 In rich luxuriance, we see
 The purple clusters twine,
 But when the gift, which God bestowed,
 The fevered lip to cool,
 Is wrought, by demon art, to turn
 A man into a fool !
 Nay ! worse than fool, a very brute !
 To drown in sensual joy,
 The gifts of soul, he should, to serve
 His fellow men employ ;
 To close his breast to sympathy ;
 To turn into a hell,
 The home where peace and comfort ought,
 Alone, for ever dwell,—
 Howe'er enticingly and bright
 The treacherous cup may flow
 Sick'ning, we turn from thee, and loathe,
 The source of sin and woe.

Halifax, N. S., January, 1842.

SARAH.

[We have much pleasure in presenting our readers with the above beautiful Sketch,—it includes fine painting, deep thought, and excellent morals. May Sarah's abilities be ever devoted to causes which will give pleasure and honour, that mere literary success cannot command.]—Ed.

For the Visitor.

CHANGES.

How have the sages passed away from Earth,
 Leaving less trace, save in their storied works,
 Than the pale vapour which, at gentle dawn,
 Shrouds copse and stream, but ere the swain awakes
 Melts valueless into the sunny air.
 Shakespeare and Milton, and the brilliant train
 Which link them with the earliest age, and us
 With them, like statues in a vista's depth,
 Each potent in his day, each central point

Of many hearts—which seemed, harmonious, fixed,
 As the sun's system—all have passed away,
 Like the quick spark struck by the courser's heel.
 Alas ! for man, how great with pride and care—
 He talks as if his circle and himself
 Comprised all being, yet, a fleeting space
 Sees his whole generation crowd the tombs.
 So with our time ; as passed our fathers, we
 Must pass, leaving our landmarks on the tide
 For our de-ccendants ; and they, in their turn—
 After brief converse of the ancient men
 Whose monuments adorn their temple walls—
 Will also shrink into the narrow house.
 Ah ! what, if this be life, is life's amount ?
 A dream, an idle tale, a painted scene,
 Passing away as time rolls up the scroll.
 For generations does oblivion wait ?

Alas ! our own com-patriots have become
 The spirits of the past. Witness the names
 Of Scott and Byron, and the courtly throng
 These stars illumined,—yesterday their spheres
 Were best and brightest with all gilded care,
 To-day, in darkness, silence, sleep of death !
 Oppressive change,—humiliating fate,—
 How shrinks the pomp of life from such review !
 Like ocean waves men pass ; the gathering swells
 Roll on, important,—curl in foamy pride,
 As snowy plumes above a battle plain,
 Then break, and fall, and blend in massy gloom.
 Such is earth's nature,—fleeting, falling, all ;—
 But this Aecldema is not the whole !

From clouds, and waves, and vapours, look beyond
 To the high world which knows no death, or night ;
 That vindicates our destiny ; there meet
 The travellers who o'er the road of time
 Posted so hurriedly. That is their home ;
 And there each fleeting year deposits safe
 The treasures which on earth were wailed as lost.
 Then let the changes roll, if we but pass
 Our trial worthily, what rapturous scenes,
 Stable as heav'n, await our exit hence :
 What meetings, converse, admiration, love,
 Full satisfaction, deep repose, delight,—
 Admitted to the host who through all time
 Have been exhaled from earth,—to angel hands
 Who knew not sin or death,—and to the vast
 Ecstatic vision of the Lmpyrean Throne.

[The expressions—" Ah what, if this be life, &c." and "That vindicates our destiny, &c."—remind of lines met with the writer believes, in Young's Night Thoughts. The imitation, if imitation there be, was unintentional, and only recognized on a second reading. The recollection of the lines alluded to is not sufficient for quotation.]

AN EXAMPLE.—A dealer in spirituous liquors, in a town in Lincoln county, was a week or more since in Boston purchasing a winter stock of "fire water." But ever captain to whom he applied for freight, refused to have anything to do with it, declaring that they would rather the vessels should go home in ballast, than be thus freighted. The dealer changed his rum for corn, and the good people have now more nutritious food and less poison.

TEMPERANCE.

HALIFAX TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

(The following information, concerning some of the forms of the Halifax Temperance Society, may be interesting to persons in the country, and others not previously informed on the subject.)

At all meetings of this Society, before proceeding to any business, the President, in a voice that all present may hear, reads the following form of

PRAYER,

(Prepared by the Rev. Doctor Twining.)

Almighty and Eternal God! whose tender mercies are over all thy works; who openest thine hand and fillest all things living with plenteousness,—we acknowledge our oneness to abuse thy gifts, and to pervert thy very bounties into an occasion of transgressing against Thee.—Enlighten, we pray thee, our benighted minds, by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit; awaken us to a sense of our responsibilities in thy sight; impress upon us a feeling of what we owe to Thee as our Creator and daily Preserver,—the God in whom we live, and move, and have our being;—write upon our hearts in deeper and more enduring characters, a memorial of our infinite obligations for the unspeakable mercy of offered Redemption and Salvation by Jesus Christ.

Thou hast graciously promised that when two or three are gathered together in Thy name, thou wilt be in the midst of them. In Thy name we assemble and meet together: and we humbly beseech Thee to bless this our undertaking, having for its object our own preservation, and the saving of others from the awful abyss of Intemperance. Impart to us a deep feeling of compassion towards those who are thus seeking death in the error of their ways. Prosper our efforts for their benefit; and enable us both by example and precept to use every means for their rescue from that dreadful and debasing Vice against which Thou hast revealed Thy wrath. Take away from among us all prejudice, and whatsoever may prevent our hearty union in this work. And as there is but one Lord, one God and Father of us all, so may we be united in one bond of truth and charity, to promote Thy glory and the good of our fellow men. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ's sake our Lord and Saviour, in whose holy name and words we sum up our imperfect petitions.

Our Father which art in heaven, &c.

At Public Meetings the Secretary receives the names of all who wish to join the institution, and they are taken as members by assenting to the following form of words, which is spoken by the President,

"Do you, entertaining a deep sense of the evils of Intemperance, and of the powerful and salutary influence of Temperance Associations; and desiring to do all that you can to secure both yourself and others from danger, unite yourself with the Halifax Temperance Society?"

"Do you pledge yourself, hoping for Divine assistance, to abstain from all intoxicating drinks, (or ardent spirits in every form) as a beverage, and from all traffic in them; and to discountenance their use by every judicious means—bearing a regard for the welfare of others to be as much a part of your duty, as attention to your own?"

"You accept, therefore, the medal of the Society as a mark of membership, promising fidelity to its rules,—in a spirit of unity with its members, and of charity towards all men."

As the object of all friends of the Temperance cause is the suppression of Intemperance, the Halifax Society continues to receive members on the first or Temperance pledge, and also on the Total Abstinence principle. The additions to the Society of late are mostly of those who adopt the total pledge, and all proceedings among the members for the furtherance of their designs are distinguished by a most pleasing forbearance and harmony. Thus, by their continued efforts, the work proceeds successfully, and verifies

the motto, wisely adopted by the Society and impressed on the medals, viz.—"Union is Strength."

The Pledge is administered in public or in private, but all, upon adopting it in private, are solicited to make a public acknowledgment on the first opportunity.

The meetings close by singing the Doxology—

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.

Early in the month of January, 1841, the very Rev. John Loughman addressed his congregation on the subject of Temperance; at the conclusion of his address he remarked that if any twelve individuals would meet him to consult on the subject, he would give it his strenuous support, and would commence 't if but twelve agreed to take the pledge. About fourteen persons did wait on him in the course of the ensuing week, and after deliberately weighing the subject, unanimously decided on the adoption of the Total Abstinence Pledge, as the surest means of effecting the object they had in view. 'n this decision the Rev. Gentleman perfectly acquiesced. Subsequently he was strongly solicited to adopt the partial pledge, but he adhered to the opinion of the persons alluded to above. On the 24th he announced that many seemed anxious for the partial pledge, but he would on that day try the total, and if those who wished the other would call on him through the ensuing week he would give the partial one the following Sunday. The unexpected success of the total pledge on that day, has, up to the present time, silenced the slightest hint on the subject of a partial one; the fourteen persons spoken of above could not on the morning of the 7th count twenty in the parish on whom they could reckon as ready to take the pledge. On that afternoon the very Rev. Mr. Loughman took the pledge at the foot of the altar, and immediately after administered it to the Rev. Mr. Dease. The effect of their example was, that four hundred persons took it before the Rev. gentlemen retired from the altar, and persons continued taking it every Sunday successively, until October, when the Society numbered 3840 Members; since that time the pledge has been given once a month,—in Nov. 38 joined, in Decr. 39, and on first Sunday of January, 53—making the number of the Society now 3970. On the 24th of July a fund was established, for the relief of sick members, to this about nine hundred have already subscribed, the Subscription is but 2s 6d per year, for which the subscribing member receives, if sick, 7s 6d per week. During the first three months, not a single application for relief was made; since the winter months commenced several families who have members sick are receiving the weekly allowance; the benefit arising from this fund is incalculable;—there are sufficient funds at present at the disposal of the Committee to meet in all probability the exigencies of the winter.

FORM OF TAKING THE PLEDGE.

The President reads the words of the pledge aloud from the altar, they are as follow. "I promise to abstain from all intoxicating drinks, &c. except used Medicinally and by order of Medical men, and discountenance the cause and practice of intemperance." The persons who intend taking the pledge then come forward to the foot of the altar, four or six at a time, when the President asks them, do they un-

derstand what they are about to do,—being answered in the affirmative, he gives the pledge, they pass on, and have their names entered in the book of the Society.—*Con.*

TEMPERANCE MISSIONARY MEETING.

If ever an occasion offered on which the friends of this good cause could rejoice, the above named meeting which took place on the evening of the 20th ult. was one. The degree of pleasure there communicated and felt was more than ordinary meetings, however well conducted, can be expected to produce. There were two gentlemen who had been employed about four months as agents and lecturers, one in the Eastern and the other in the Western parts of our highly favoured Province. An attentive and very respectable audience was waiting a recital of the events that they had been instrumental in producing, and to hear of the state of the country generally with reference to this cause, which has of late been an object of great interest to all classes.

Beamish Murdoch, Esq. occupied his usual place in the chair, and in the choir above was a goodly number prepared to give harmonious expression to the animating and loyal songs composed for the occasion. The numerous attendance of ladies, which was aptly remarked to be a most favorable omen, with the interest which was felt and exhibited by all present, gave promise of a more extended scale of operations in the new year for the accomplishment of the objects of the institution.

The Rev. James Knowlan, whose labours had been given in the Western parts, first rose, and gave a clear and brief account of his tour, by which it appeared that the total-abstinence pledge was approved of by nearly all whom he met as friends of the cause; and by his mission, nine hundred persons were added to the several Societies which he visited. He was gladly welcomed in most places as a Messenger of Mercy, and the mission highly approved of. Of the efficacy of missionary labours in this cause, he has given convincing proof, and means for their continuance and extension may be expected from the numerous Societies which have been revived and refreshed by his unwearied labours. The friends of the cause in the Province generally, are deeply indebted to these two gentlemen, whose toils have not been remunerated by the trifling sum which they have received as Salary; and an earnest desire to do good must have prompted them to enter upon the office which they have so faithfully and profitably filled.

The younger missionary Rev. G. J. McDonald who had traversed a large portion of the Eastern parts, then gave his testimony of the esteem in which the cause is held, and its objects approved of, in most places where he journeyed. He met a friendly reception; the endeavours of the Halifax Society to extend the blessings of Temperance were highly spoken of at meetings; and by his labours upwards of six hundred were enrolled in the Army of Abstinence.

These truly encouraging accounts, given in a pleasing manner, made time pass unnoticed, and three hours and a half were occupied, without weariness or impatience being evinced by any of the numerous persons who were there congregated.

The Halifax Society has held during the year past, thirty-five public meetings, the moral tendency of which cannot

be questioned, and as a source of interest alone, these occasions are worthy the attention of all classes. Many resort to places of public amusement and pry to see performances, which frequently cause painful reflections after, for the waste of time and money they have involved; while an intellectual or moral entertainment will perhaps be neglected, which would inform and improve them, and be enjoyed at far less expense. By attending to these they would have a present benefit to themselves, and the pleasure of reflecting that their means and countenance were given to aid in the promotion of knowledge and virtue, by the extension of which alone, they with others, can expect to enjoy any comforts or privileges, either of a social or political nature.—*Communicated.*

EXTRACTS.

CLOTHING.—Let all who have cast-off garments of any description, send them to Mr. W. at the Washington Temperance Hall. No matter if coats are out at the elbow, or trousers out at the knees. The Society have a depository of second-hand garments, from which they clothe their converts taken from the gutters. Previously to being put in store for use, the Martha Washington Temperance Society, (ladies) and the wives and daughters of the members of the male associations, mend and put the garments in order. These cast-off articles are thus made as good as new for the purpose of keeping the late wretches, present steady citizens, warm.

The fact is, that the Washingtonians are absolutely reclaiming drunkards faster than they can clothe them; and the charitable must come forward, and give of their abundance in aid of the cause. The Society are taking the way to make true men out of refuse stock. It is easy enough to tell a poor miserable wretch that he is one, and he will believe it readily enough too. But what can he do about it? He can't be respectable till he is cleaned and made whole outwardly; and he can't get the means to effect these necessary reforms, while, in his debased situation, the back of every body is turned upon him, and the very dogs scorn to comfort and assist him. The Washingtonians, by dressing their customers, give them a new capital to start temperance on; and the consequence is, that eight out of ten forgotten men, kicked aside by the world to rot as rubbish, prove, when reclaimed and clothed, generally good citizens.

Another great day's work was done by the tee-totalers on the dock yesterday. Seventy men, or thereabouts, took the pledge, and the most needy of them were clothed, and are this day facing the premonitory winter blasts, with warmer and more comfortable sensations than they dreamed of upon Saturday. Nor does the good and charitable stop with merely clothing these doubly destitute and unfortunate men. The assistance of the Society, and of their own personal friends, is accorded to provide them with employment; and being relieved from the enormous tax of intemperance, they easily keep the footing they have gained. Great wreckers are the Washingtonians, and a first-rate claim for salvage they have upon society, for picking up and preserving every particle of 'flotsam and jetsam,' which drifts within their reach, on the sea of intemperance. Walk up, members of society, and pay your salvage in old clothes—men's clothes, women's clothes, children's clothes—aye, and baby's frocks—for drunkards have families—pining wives and naked children.

The more is the pity, while they are drunkards, that they have such connections—but it is all the better for the cause when they become sober men. There are no better assurances and guardians of reformed drunkards than their wives and children, and when they get the rum out of their mouths, a cherub babe's breath becomes sweeter than the zephyrs from Araby the blest. So bring along your old clothes for the Washingtonians—or, if you wish to spend dollar in aid of their funds, take tickets for the Juvenile Concert in the Mulberry Street Baptist Tabernacle, Wednesday evening.—*Abridged from the New York Times.*

BOSTON.—It was stated at a recent meeting of the Boston Temperance Society, that about 8000 persons had signed the pledge of that association, (tee-total) during the past year. In addition to the above, nearly the same number have signed the pledge of the Washingtonians, and upwards of 4000, that of the Catholic Temperance Societies,—making in all, about 20,000 in that city alone, who have enrolled themselves as tee-totalers within the last twelve months.

SPRINGFIELD.—In less than four weeks, about eleven hundred have signed the Total Abstinence Pledge in this village. At no time since the recent efforts commenced, has the prospect appeared so auspicious as at the present moment. The probability now is, that nearly all of our citizens will sign the pledge. Many of our citizens who have never until recently been known as the active friends of the cause, are now zealously engaged in most praiseworthy efforts to benefit their fellow men.

BALTIMORE.—A movement is now in progress in Baltimore, which seems to promise most satisfactory results. The Howard Temperance Society has taken the matter in hand, and in a determined and praiseworthy spirit. This association has appointed a committee of three to apply to the mayor and city council, for an annual appropriation of one thousand dollars, or whatever other sum may, on examination of the facts that may be presented to a committee of that body, be deemed necessary, to maintain an establishment for the support of debilitated inebriates willing to reform their habits, until their constitutions shall be so far restored, that they can be pronounced fit to go to work and earn their own living.

THE EFFECTS OF DRUNKENNESS.—The great Lord Chancellor Bacon's opinion of drunkenness was, that "All the crimes on earth do not destroy so many of the human race, nor alienate so much property, as drunkenness."

THE VISITOR.

HALIFAX, N. S.

SATURDAY EVENING, JANUARY 15, 1842.

THE VISITOR.

The publication of a small periodical, whose leading feature should be the advocacy of Temperance, has been spoken for some time in Halifax. The publisher of these pages resolved on attempting to supply the want, and, accordingly, presents the first number of the *Visitor* to the Public. The Halifax Temperance Society have given the attempt their patronage, and similar support is hoped respecting the Star's Society, and others throughout the Province.

Temperance is a subject of such importance, as to demand an organ at least, in which its interests shall be attended to, a matter of course; its friends hope, however, that the establishment of such an organ will not lessen the friendly efforts of other papers; the assistance of all is wanted, and the good in view is worthy of united exertion.

Temperance is a social virtue,—it inculcates its rules in order that other virtues may follow. It is the friend of innocent cheerfulness, of information, and of human happiness generally,—its interests should never be separated from those of Piety and Philanthropy,—and every Member of a Temperance Society should feel, that the credit of his cause is to be supported, in the eyes of Heaven and of men, by the production of "good fruit" in all the departments of life. The person to whom is entrusted the Editorship of the *Visitor*, believes that he would do most good, by not confining the paper to one subject,—but, while making one the

chief, by blending articles of literature, education, useful knowledge, and general morality, in his pages, and thus making a useful, interesting, and novel addition to the publications of the week. He thus hopes to be able to present a small work, which may circulate generally among the population, but be particularly acceptable to those who have not much access to other works, and who may hail the *Visitor* as an agreeable companion to the Saturday evening's fire side.

The first number is not precisely a specimen of what the *Visitor* will be; some departments have been omitted, and others have over-run their share of space; we will soon be more acquainted with our limits, and have further sources to draw from.

We thank the Correspondents whose favours appear to-day,—and request them and others to enrich and diversify our pages by their contributions. We would gladly make the *Visitor* a vehicle by which the moral essayist and poet, might, in moments of leisure, communicate with the public, and employ their talents for the pleasure and improvement of others. Statistical information, reports, and other documentary papers connected with Temperance, are solicited from Town and Country. The Editor however, must exercise the right with which he is entrusted for the general good, by such supervision, as regards contributions, as may appear called for by circumstances.

Our object is to serve, and please, and give no just cause of offence. If, in opposing vice and its sources we shall cause objections among any portion of our fellow Colonists, we can only regret the result, but must not turn from the path of duty. Temperance has erected her banner for the union of all,—she knows no parties; but the holiest cause which the world ever knew had its difficulties—opponents who withstood, or lukewarm spectators who refused a helping hand. This must be expected, yet we trust to lessen such influence, by conciliation, and to see it yield before conviction and christian charity.

The terms of the *Visitor* are very low—none of its space is to be occupied by advertisements, except those connected with its objects—a large list, therefore, is essential, to prevent pecuniary loss to those who have undertaken the task, and who hope for such future improvements as an extensive sphere may render possible.

Secretaries of Temperance Societies, and others friendly to the cause, are requested to act as Agents for the *Visitor*.

Several articles intended for this department of the paper have been superceded, unexpectedly, by the extent of other matter.

We intend to insert a brief summary of late News in our future numbers.

The 37th Regiment, many of whom belonged to Halifax Temperance Societies, embarked in excellent style on Tuesday the 28th ultimo.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The winter, hitherto, has been marked by prevalence of scarlet fever, measles, and influenza. The continuance of wet weather, probably, tended to introduce these epidemics; and the great changes which followed frost and snow have been very trying to delicate persons.—*Novascotian*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SONNET.

(By Serjeant T. N. Talfourd, composed in view of Eton College, after leaving his eldest son there for the first time—The junction of pictorial effect, and learned recollection, and the father's affection and hope, which breathes an air of sanctity over the whole, make the Sonnet one of deep interest and beauty.)

How often have I fixed a stranger's gaze
On yonder turrets clad in light as fair
As thus soft sunset lends—pleas'd to drink air
Of learning that from calm of ancient days
Breathes round them ever.—now to me they wear
The tinge of dearer thought, the radiant haze
That crowns them thickens, as with fonder care,
And by its flickering sparkles, sense conveys
Of youth's first triumphs.—for amid their seats
One little student's heart impatient beats
With blood of mine. O God, vouchsafe him power
When I am dust to stand on this sweet place
And, through the vista of long years, embrace
Without a blush this first Etonian hour!

NATURAL HISTORY.

(How delightfully do enquiries into this delightful department, exhibit the extraordinary skill, wisdom and goodness, displayed by the Creator among the inferior animals. The beauty and sagacity, so visible in the tribes that animate the globe, form a study ever entertaining and instructive. We copy, below, some notices of the denizens of the grove, contained in a review by the London Spectator, of a new and splendid work, called Gould's Birds of Australia.)

The birds of Australia appear to be no less peculiar in their characteristics than the animals and vegetation; and of the seventeen plates forming this fasciculus, several specimens are entirely new, and others have been but imperfectly described. The most singular, on account of its habits, is the Wattled Talegalla, or Brush Turkey, hitherto known as the New Holland Vulture, but which Mr. Gould decides to belong to the gallinaceous tribe. The breed is threatened with extermination, by the extraordinary insensibility to danger which the birds manifest in allowing themselves to be shot at repeatedly without taking wing. The most curious characteristic, however, is the mode of incubation, which, though resembling that of an ostrich, is differing in many particulars. A few weeks previous to the laying-season, several birds combine their labours to accumulate an immense heap of decaying vegetable matter, to the amount of from two to four cart-loads, which they collect together by scratching it up and throwing it back towards a central point. It forms a mound of pyramidal form—when the heat generated by the process of decomposition is sufficient, the hens deposit their eggs in an upright position, which prevents the necessity of turning them as in other cases, and with the broad end uppermost, to admit of the escape of the chick; each egg is placed twelve inches apart, and at the bottom of a hole an 8.5's-length deep: the large size of the eggs—three inches and three-quarters long, and two inches and a half wide—allows of the chick to assume its plumage before breaking the shell; from which Mr. Gould infers that the young ones support themselves without the assistance of the parent. The number of eggs contained in each pyramid is very great, some of them yielding a bushel. Another bird, of a totally different genus, the Ocellated Leipoa, or Pheasant of Western Australia, which is found at two hundred miles distance, adopts a similar method of incubation; using sand, however, as the basis of the egg-hills.

The most beautiful in form and plumage are the graceful little birds of the Parrot tribe, of which there are four species in this part, two Lorrikeets, and two Parrikeets. One of the latter, the Warbling Parrakeet, is extremely elegant in form, and delicately plumed, the body being bright green and the head and wings yellow, mottled with

crecent-shaped stripes of brown: and it is remarkable for the 'sweet warbling song' which it keeps up during the day, and, if stimulated by the lights and conversation of a room, for part of a night. Mr. Gould has preserved a pair of these lovely pets alive, and they have continued in perfect health, delighting all visitors with their sprightly animation and dulcet notes, no less than their exquisite form and markings. The Kingfishers, of which there are two species, brilliant in colour though not in form, are birds that one would not expect to meet with in a country where drought is so prevalent; but these birds, Mr. Gould says, do not drink, nor dive into the water for their prey, but adapt their habits to the scorched and barren plains of Australia. The nest of the Fan-tailed Fly-catcher, slanted like a wine-glass or egg cup with a long stem, is another feature worth noting. Besides the Owllet Night-jar, which inhabits hollow trees, there is the Podargus, another night bird, that sleeps so soundly during the day as only to be disturbed by being knocked off its perch, when it flies lazily to another tree and resumes its slumbers. The delicate foliage and bloom of the various gum-trees and the beautiful grasses, which are introduced to indicate the food and proportional scale of the birds, give pictorial completeness to the plates. All the drawings on stone are executed by Mrs. Gould, whose style unites to the minute accuracy of definition required by the naturalist, an artistical feeling and arrangement that leaves nothing to be wished for. The colouring is fresh from nature, and each plate is as highly finished as if it were a drawing.

THE BLACKBIRD.—It is not in the wild valley, flanked with birchen slopes, and stretching far away among craggy hills that the music of the blackbird floats upon the evening breeze.—There you may listen delighted to the gentle song of the mavis; but here, in this plain, covered with corn fields and skirted with gardens, sit these down on the green turf by the gliding brook, and mark the little black speck stuck as it were upon the top twig of that tall poplar. It is a blackbird, for now the sweet strain, loud, but mellow by distance, comes upon the ear, inspiring pleasant thoughts and banishing care and sorrow. The bird has evidently learned his part by long practice, for he sings sedately, and in full consciousness of superiority. Ceasing at intervals he renews the strain, varying so that although you can trace an occasional repetition of notes, the staves are never precisely the same. You may sit an hour or longer, and the song will be continued; and in the neighbouring gardens many rival songsters will sometimes raise their voices at once, or delight you with alternate strains. And what is the purpose of all this melody. We can only conjecture that it is the expression of happiness which the creature is enjoying, when untroubled by care, conscious of security, and aware of the presence of his mate, he intently pours forth his soul in joy and gratitude and love. He does not sing to amuse his mate, as many have supposed, for he often sings in winter, when he is not yet mated; and does he sing to beguile his solitude, for now he is not solitary, but he sings because all his wants are satisfied, his frame glowing with health, and because his Maker has gifted him with the power of uttering such sweet sounds."

A soldier came to Gonzale Feronandez, and told him that he thought a fortress of the enemy might be won with the loss of some few men, on which Gonzale said, "but you be one of them?"

Milk is said to be an antidote to that thirst which afflicts men who have been confirmed drunkards, when they attempt to break off from their habits.

THE SATURDAY EVENING VISITOR

Is printed and published by RICHARD NUGENT, at his office, West Front of the Province Building, Halifax. Terms—5s. per annum, in advance, or 13d. per copy. When sent by Mail 6s. 3d., in all cases to be paid in advance.