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THE ABSTAINER.

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

J. M. ORAMP, D.D., }
EDITOR.

Fidelity,--Union--Perseverance.

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HALIFAX, N.S., DECEMBER 15, 1856.

NO. 3.

Essays, &c.

THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF PROHIBITION.

BY PROFESSOR YLOMANS.

This admirable Tract is in the form of a letter to E. C. Delavan, Esq. of Albany. It will be concluded in our next number:—

DEAR SIR:—I take the earliest opportunity which multiplied and pressing engagements will allow, to comply with the request contained in your letter, and prepare a statement of some thoughts which seem to have an important bearing upon the present aspect of the Temperance movement, and which (I think) have not been sufficiently pressed upon public consideration. The question presented is, "Shall Alcoholic Liquors as common beverages, be commercially outlawed?" and we are required to determine what there is about them in relation to the human constitution which demands that their sale shall be prohibited. I propose to show that there is a part of man's physical organization upon which his mental nature depends, and which is therefore the real foundation of all society and government; that Alcoholic Liquors, when drunk, seek out this portion of the bodily system in preference to all others, and so disorganize it as to disturb the mind, pervert the conduct, and invade the responsibility; that their properties in these respects are so peculiar and remarkable as to separate them widely from all other substances in nature and art, and confer upon government a right of control over them which is necessary, fundamental, and absolute.

Of Alcohol itself, little need be said. Its scientific history has been thoroughly canvassed, and no question is better settled than that of its origin and nature. It comes into existence through the chemical destruction of food, and is that common and active principle of all fermented and distilled liquors which gives them the power of producing intoxication. It is hence both customary and proper to employ the term *Alcohol* when its various mixtures are referred to.

Before considering the way man is affected by this agent, it will be necessary that we direct attention to certain fundamental facts concerning the nature of his constitution. Before we can understand how a machine is acted upon by any foreign influence, we must first have a somewhat distinct idea of the mechanism itself. In this case it is of extreme importance, and I may, therefore, be pardoned for first calling attention to certain facts and laws of the human structure.

If we ideally take the human system to pieces, we shall at once discern the uses of its lead-

ing parts. The bony framework is designed to support it in firmness and strength, and the elastic muscles to throw it into movement. As the production of force involves waste of matter, or decomposition of the parts in action—a gradual perishing of the living atoms—there is needed a circulatory system to distribute new matter to all parts, and to take up and carry away the products of change which are constantly formed. This requires a digestive system for the preparation of nutriment. A heart is needed to impel and regulate the vital current, and lungs to supply air to the body, its oxygen being the motive power of animal life. In addition to these organs, there is still another part of the fabric, the specific purpose of which is not at first so obvious.

The upper portion of the head is occupied by a mass of matter which differs in aspects and qualities from all other parts of the system. It is not hard and resisting like the bones, nor firm and contractile like the muscles, nor hollow and receptive like the stomach, nor spongy and porous like the lungs. It is clearly different in nature and uses from all other parts, and yet it is evidently of the first importance. Situated at the summit of the body it overlooks all the other and subordinate portions; superior in position, we suspect it is also superior in consideration; surrounded and guarded by a strong bony case, its protection is apparently a matter of the first necessity; connected with all parts of the body by a complex and curious system of minute threads or lines, it is in some way intimately associated with the general action of the mechanism.

I refer to the brain, which is enclosed within the skull. It consists of a large sheet of nervous matter, which is packed within the bony cavity so as to crumple it, and cause folds and convolutions, and consequently hollows and furrows. Anatomists say that, when taken out and soaked, it may be unfolded or dilated out, so that the convolutions disappear; and that then it has a surface of more than six hundred square inches. The weight of the brain in the adult male ranges usually from forty to sixty ounces, the average being about fifty ounces, and the lightest about thirty ounces, although in idiots it sometimes falls as low as twenty ounces. The brain, like all other parts of the system, contains innumerable circulatory vessels, and is filled with blood; but it differs from them in this, that it receives a very much larger share of blood than any other equal portion of the organism. Although its average weight is to that of the body but as one to thirty-six, it receives, according to different authorities, from one-fifth to one-tenth of all the blood which is sent from the heart. An arterial torrent rushed into it, and a venous stream flows out of it continually. Those de-

compositions or changes in the blood, therefore, which give rise to force, go forward in this organ with rapidity, so that, whatever may be its uses, it is evidently an engine of power.

The brain is well known to be the centre of bodily sensations, the seat of the will; the residence of the intellectual and moral attributes of man; the point at which the spiritual and material worlds blend and unite. The soft, pulpy sheet, so curiously folded away in the cavity of the skull, and which is kept constantly flooded with bright arterial blood, is the material structure that God has prepared as the organ of thought. How mind and matter are joined—how the immortal spirit during the life-period of its being dwells, and can only dwell, in the ever changing cerebral fabric, is an inscrutable mystery. Nevertheless such is the fact. We know nothing of mind except as bound up with matter in the brain, and in this alliance there arises an intimate dependence of the former upon the latter—of the mind upon its material organ. Bodily conditions exert a powerful influence over mental feelings, conceptions and states, independent of the will. In fainting, there is a transient suspension of the circulation, and hence a temporary pause in the flow of blood through the brain, and the mind disappears in unconsciousness. Sir Astley Cooper checked the vital current in the arteries that led to the brain of a dog, when the animal fell senseless; as the circulation was restored, it revived. Bichat showed that the influence of the scarlet or arterial blood is necessary to the due performance the cerebral functions. If dark colored or venous blood be substituted for it, and transmitted to the brain by the arteries, the animal falls into a state of total insensibility. If, when a portion of the skull is removed, slight pressure be made upon the brain, mental paralysis instantly follows and continues until the pressure is removed. A case is recorded where consciousness, which had been extinguished for six months, was restored by removing a small portion of the skull which pressed upon the brain. In fever, the blood acquires a diseased condition, and so disorders the brain, as to replace the normal course of thought by the ravings and phantasms of delirium. Unusual rapidity of the flow of blood through the brain, undue pressure within it, as in "determination of blood" or "congestion," disturbs the mind's action. Nitrous oxide gas respired, so affects the brain as to arouse the mind into preternatural violence of action; while the respiration of carbonic acid gas, even in the small proportion often found in unventilated apartments, depresses and stupefies the mind in spite of the utmost effort of volition. The opinion is now generally entertained by the most eminent physio-

logists, derangement of mind involves disorder of its material instrument. Dr Beck, in his Medical Jurisprudence, says: "causes of insanity are usually divided into physical and moral, or bodily and mental; but a separation of this kind is not conducive to just views of the disease. Insanity is essentially a bodily disease, and the moral causes operate in producing it as they do in producing other complaints."

We gather from these, and numerous other facts of a similar nature which I have no space to mention, that when the mind acts naturally, it is because the changes within the brain go on in a normal way, and that a perverted material organ produces corresponding derangement of mind. Accompanying every thought, each act of the recollection, or of the reasoning and imaginative and emotional powers, there is a certain kind and amount of material transformation which is essential to these mental acts; and any agent or force brought to bear upon the brain, which arrests or modifies or hinders these material changes, necessarily disturbs and perverts the mental operations. This fact of the essential dependence of mental processes upon cerebral mutations, we are too much inclined to overlook. We regard the mind's acts alone, abstracted from all their conditions, separated from the corresponding material acts upon which they depend. We have such a habit of contrasting mind and matter—of considering them as separate and even antagonist forms of being—that we, as it were, detach our conceptions of mental existence and action from their vital connexions. Habituated to conceive of mind in its final and highest destiny as disincumbered of matter, we neglect the inexorable fact that such is not its condition *here and now*. As children, when out at play, are utterly unconscious of that lever-action of bones, the contractility and spring of muscles, and the lightning despatches that are continually flying in all directions over the nerve wires from head quarters to the hands, feet, tongue, lips, eyes, and the whole mobile and sensitive system, so we are all apt to forget that when we think, and hope, and reflect, and wish, and remember, and calculate, or exert the mind in any way, we are really spinning the wheel-work of that most complicated and wonderful of all machines, that masterpiece of Divine Invention, the human brain. I do not affirm that intellectual operations *originate or consist* in material changes of the brain, but only that, in the present state of existence, the mental principle cannot act except through its organ, by which such changes necessarily occur. The fact is undeniable, that, in this stage of being, the Creator has so woven the mental element into brain tissue that the former cannot work except through the latter, and in accordance with its laws.

Let us consider the practical import of these facts: A man, for example, moving free in society, discharges his duties and regulates all his conduct properly. We at once refer this course of action to his will and say that *he chooses* it. This is true, but it is not the whole truth. That right action of his mind rests for its basis upon a sound brain—that is, a brain in such a condition of harmonious and rapid physiological change as makes this course of thought and action possible. In another instance he may take advantage of his liberty to commit wrong and inflict injury upon others, and we then attribute his course to a *depraved* will. But here again we must go further back to that state of the mind's organ

which permitted the freedom of choice, for the liberty of volition depends upon a proper condition of the instrument of thought. Or, in still another instance, brain derangement may annihilate the free action of the voluntary faculties, and drive the insane individual to destructive deeds, for which he is not to be held responsible. In all these cases the final basis of individual action is the condition of the organ of thought. Government, by means of law, prescribes, in certain respects a course of action for the citizen, and appeals to certain motives as inducements to it. It promises the protection of natural rights as a consequence of obedience to law, and threatens punishment as the result of its violation. Government thus makes its appeal to mind; and we hence say that it *rests* upon mind—that its foundation is the responsible intelligence of its subject. This is quite true, but we must go deeper. Government is built upon cerebral conditions. Hence, states of the material brain become the real foundations of government. Its true basis is that which holds and sustains the intelligent nature of man in its harmony and integrity.

There is a class of persons destitute of brains, or rather they have only a part of the organ, just sufficient to regulate and control the animal life. They have no intellectual brain, their minds are therefore low and fragmentary, and we call them *idiots*. Now, within the constitution of an idiot there is nothing which government can reach so as to make him its subject. There is a deficiency of that portion of the organism upon which government is based; and it therefore, in this case, has no basis. The idiot is simply an animal lacking that organic part, which, when superadded, confers intelligence, responsibility, and subjection to law. Or, though the brain of an individual may have been formed perfect, if from any cause it becomes disordered, so that the mind can no longer use it, the relation of such person to society is at once dissolved, all moral obligations and legal demands upon him cease, and he passes beyond the limit of social and civil accountability.

These facts disclose the relative rank of different parts of the human body. Each has its importance, but there is an infinite difference in their respective values. The organs are all bound together by such ties of sympathy and mutual dependence as to constitute a harmonious unit; but when any one becomes disordered so as to interrupt or defeat its peculiar action, we behold at once the wide gradation of their offices. If the bones be broken the body is no longer supported; if the muscles be paralyzed motion is impossible; if the lungs are disordered, respiration becomes affected; or if the stomach, there is a disturbed digestion. Yet all this is but a perversion of the subordinate machinery of the human constitution. If disease fastens upon the organ of mind there is dethronement of the intellect, and a total wreck of manhood. God and man—religion, government, and all the multifiform relations which cluster around the intelligent being—are blotted out of existence, for we know nothing of these except by rational and coherent ideas, which are possible if the temple of thought be thrown into tumult and disorder. The bodily system of man may thus be contemplated as an indivisible whole in its subjection to physical laws, but as divisible into two widely different portions in respect of the purposes it serves. The first consists of the apparatus of animal life, and this is made subservient to

another and more sacred part, devoted to nobler objects, and to which appertains whatever is glorious and godlike in man's nature—a part which controls the citizen in the whole circle of his private and public responsibilities, in which, therefore, society and government have an especial and peculiar interest—upon which, indeed, they rest as a foundation.

I call attention now to an important physiological law, according to which foreign substances affect the bodily constitution. The first action of the system upon the various nutritive materials which are designed to nourish it, is by means of the digestive process, to prepare a uniform homogeneous liquid, which is to circulate through all its parts. This liquid, the blood, contains the elements necessary to form all the structures of the body. The nutrition of these parts, therefore, consists in taking out of the circulatory current and appropriating those special elements which each tissue requires. There is no one part which demands all the constituents of the blood in its growth; it therefore only withdraws such elements as it needs; other parts of the body taking the rest. Nutrition, therefore, involves a kind of vital analysis of the sanguinary fluid, and the local appropriation of its constituents. For example—where the bones are required to grow, compounds of lime are withdrawn from the blood; the muscular tissues select from it compounds containing sulphur, and the nervous tissue those containing phosphorus. And so each individual secretion and part—tears, saliva, gastric juice and bile, as well as ligaments, tendons, hair, teeth and nails—each separates from the blood at some particular place just those peculiar ingredients which are necessary to form it. Local attraction for chemical substances in the bodily system is thus the fundamental law by which the living mechanism is perpetuated.

Now this physiological ordinance is not confined to nutritive substances, it governs also the destination or medicines. Every body understands that, to combat diseases in various parts of the fabric, different medicines are resorted to which will take effect upon the different parts. Medicines swallowed and absorbed into the circulation, or applied externally, and imbibed by the tissue, enter the revolving stream, and are thence drawn out and lodged in parts which have for them a special attraction. The highest authority in *Materi Medica*, Dr Pereira, says, "*The specific operation of medicines after their absorption, on particular organs is well known.*" Indeed, eminent medical authorities, as Eberle, Dunglison and others, have made the action of remedies upon different parts of the system the basis of their classifications. Thus, one group has a specific action on the intestinal canal, another upon the respiratory organs, and others upon the circulatory, muscular, and nervous systems. Then there are subdivisions based upon the mode of action of each part. One class of remedies acts upon the blood, some upon its corpuscles, and others upon its plasma; some to thicken and others to thin it, and others to affect it in still different ways. To such an extent is this law of localization carried, that not only do medicines select particular organs, but (as Dr Carpenter observes) their action is often limited to particular spots upon the organ.

Now, precisely the same law of local attraction which governs nutriment and medicines, controls also the physiological action of *poisons*. Poisonous agents are drawn by special affini-

ties to particular parts, upon which they produce their morbid, disorganizing or fatal effects. An English writer of high authority in toxicology, Dr Christison, says, "Poisons are commonly, but I conceive erroneously, said to affect remotely the general system. A few of them do, indeed, appear to affect a great number of the organs of the body; but much the larger proportion seem on the contrary to act on one or more organs only, and not on the general system." Thus, for example, arsenic in poisonous doses attacks and inflames the mucous membrane of the alimentary passages; strychnine takes effect upon the spinal cord, and lead fastens upon the muscles of the wrist, paralyzing them, and producing what is known among painters and white lead manufacturers as *wrist-drop*. The disturbance occasioned by the poisonous agent may not be confined to a single part; yet, under the action of this fundamental law of the constitution, "tendency of poisons is to seek out and faster upon particular portions of the organism first and most directly suffers from their action."

With this hasty analysis of the relative value of various parts of man's constitution, and of the law under which they are acted upon by foreign agents, I proceed to examine the manner in which it is affected by alcohol.

All alcoholic liquors, when drunk, pass into the stomach as a matter of necessity, this being the route of introduction for liquids and solids to the general system. But they do not long remain in this organ, for their presence there would speedily and utterly arrest the digestive process. "It is a remarkable fact," says Dr Dundas Thompson, "that alcohol, when added to the digestive fluid, produces a white precipitate, so that the fluid is no longer capable of digesting animal or vegetable matter." This precipitate is the coagulation of the pepsin, an essential element of the gastric juice. Those distinguished physiologists, Todd and Bowman, in their late work, say, "The use of alcoholic stimulants also retards digestion by coagulating the pepsin, and thereby interfering with its action. Were it not that wine and spirits are rapidly absorbed, the introduction of these into the stomach in any quantity would be a complete bar to the digestion of the food, as the pepsin would be precipitated from solution as quickly as it was formed by the stomach." Alcoholic mixtures are therefore promptly absorbed; they penetrate the tissues of the stomach, and are quickly launched into the circulation.

The question now is, after alcohol has passed into the vital stream, and thus gets free course through the general system, what then becomes of it? Under the influence of the great physiological law to which I have referred, what is its destiny? To what part of the organism is it first and chiefly attracted? It is the nervous system, and especially its great controlling centre, the brain, that is singled out and becomes the chief focus of its ravages. This is a truth acknowledged and beyond dispute. For while it is a matter of notorious observation that spirituous liquors, when drunk, have a tendency to "fly to the head," as is evinced by the prompt mental disturbance which they produce, the dissector shows that the organ of mind is the rallying point of palpable disorganization and disease, and the ablest apologists for alcohol also bear explicit testimony to the fact. A late able writer in *The Westminster Review*, who has attempted a scientific defence of alcohol, recognize fully its special relationship to the nervous system, "by its great affinity and the

selective eagerness with which it acts on that tissue." In a controversy which you had some years since with Dr Hun, of Albany, upon the question of stomach diseases induced by alcohol, your adversary affirmed that "it is on the nervous system that its most terrible effects are produced." That alcohol has been extracted from the matter of the brain after death by intoxication, is a well established fact, and repeated instances are on record where it has been taken from the cavities (ventricles) of that organ, in sufficient strength to be set on fire and burn with its characteristic blue flame. Alcohol has been obtained from the brain several days after the victim's death, and it has been found in the cerebral substance, when it could not be detected either in the ventricles of the organ or in any other part of the body. But cases in which the action of alcohol upon the human brain can be directly or satisfactorily studied, are from the nature of things, rare and accidental. For the thorough and accurate exploration of the subject, therefore, resort has been had, as in the elucidation of many other important physiological problems, to experiments upon the inferior animals.

We are indebted to Dr Percy of Edinburgh for a course of experimental inquiries of this kind which completely settle the question and verify the conclusions drawn from observations upon the brain of man. He destroyed the animals by injecting strong alcohol into the system, and then subjected to analysis the brain and other parts to detect the presence and proportion of the poison. The result of his investigation was not only that alcohol was drawn to the brain by special attraction, but that it existed rather in the cerebral substance than in the vessels of the organ. He says: "Although I have subjected to analysis a much greater quantity of blood than can possibly be present within the cranium, yet I have in general been enabled to procure a much larger proportion of alcohol from the brain than from all this quantity of blood." He hence infers the existence of an "affinity between alcohol and the cerebral matter."

Now it can hardly be necessary to state that alcohol is an agent of such active and powerful qualities that it cannot be diffused through the cerebral tissue without giving rise to profound disturbance. I have stated that the brain is a laboratory of the most rapid vital changes, upon which its functional exercise depends. A substance of the energetic affinities and fiery irritant nature of alcohol cannot enter the theatre of these transformations without producing active interference. We know that the direct action of alcohol upon the tissues is that of a disorganizing poison, and, when lodged within the brain, this must be its kind of effect, whatever may be its degree. By its eager attraction for oxygen and its extreme inflammability, ranging in this respect high above all normal aliments, it produces an unnatural intensity of vital combustion, and consequently excitement, exhilaration, and increased action throughout the system. By robbing the arterial blood of its oxygen, it changes it prematurely to the venous condition, and contributes, as was long since shown by Dr Prout, to the unnatural retention of carbonic acid within the body. Thus, by the direct action of alcohol, disseminated through the substance of the brain, and by the altered condition of the blood which it induces, disease of the organ becomes inevitable. Accordingly, it is found that upon post mortem examination of the bodies of inebri-

ates, the brain exhibits conspicuous traces of the deleterious agent in the shape of enlargement of the vessels and thickening of their coats; watery and bloody effusions; engorgement of the membranes; preternatural softening and pulpy disorganization of the cerebral texture, with various other morbid appearances. In one case, where death was suddenly produced by an excessive quantity of rum, the brain presented bloody spots, and the cavities were loaded with blood, although the stomach was natural.

Physiologists are agreed that different parts of the brain are devoted to different uses. The first effect of alcohol is upon its higher and frontal portion, which is the seat of the intellectual and moral faculties. This part of the brain is excited by a small quantity of liquor, and when more is taken it becomes more deeply perverted, and the higher and lower portion of the organ, which controls the nerves of motion, is attacked, and the individual loses the faculty of perfectly governing or regulating the bodily movements. When a still greater quantity is drunk, the action of that part which is devoted to the higher sentiments seems utterly suspended, the power of voluntary motion is lost, and the poison passes downward to the extreme lower portion of the organ, which is connected with the spinal cord, and has charge of the respiratory process. The breathing is thus interfered with, and becomes heavy and labored, as we see in dead-drunkness. When death occurs in these cases, it is because this part of the brain becomes so deeply poisoned as to stop respiration. These effects show that alcohol is not diffused uniformly through the brain, but takes effect successively upon its several parts.

Now, if alcohol acts thus unequally upon the mind's organ, it must of course act in the same manner upon the mind itself. Its first effect through the brain upon the mind is to stimulate or excite it to increased action; but this effect is far from being a general and equal invigoration, or uniform strengthening of all the mental powers; it is on the contrary a partial and unequal action which is subversive of their harmony. Alcohol takes sides with one portion of the mental constitution against another. Perhaps the highest attribute of mind is the power of voluntary control which it has over itself, by which disturbing forces are held in check, and energies may be steadfastly directed to a continuous train of thought, or a difficult subject of investigation. Now, the effect of liquor is by no means to give increased strength in this direction. It neither imparts fixedness to the purposes, nor persistency to the will, nor the power of rigid subjection over the passionate nature. Its effects, on the contrary, are all in the opposite direction. The more volatile faculties, the imagination and ideal powers, are quickened under its influence to excessive exertion, and go off into spontaneous bursts of wit, humor, and fancy. There are brilliant corruscations of thought, and a blaze of imaginative pyrotechny. But this artificial tumult of the mind is not favorable to the calm and sober exercise of the graver faculties. As the spontaneous or automatic activity of the mind, occasioned by brain stimulation, is increased, there is a decrease of its self-controlling, self-regulating power. The mind cannot serve two masters; just in proportion as it is surrendered to the influence of an external force, which invades it through the brain, it ceases to be in its own keeping. With the sparkles and effervescence of alcoholic excitement, there is a weakening of the re-

gulating and restraining forces by which mind manages its own movements, a partial loss of that voluntary control over the mental operations, which as Dr Carpenter remarks, "must be regarded as an *incipient stage of insanity*." At the same time, the lower passions and propensities are aroused to inordinate activity. In healthful mental conditions, these press powerfully upon the higher controlling sentiments, and from their reaction results moral equilibrium of character. The influence of alcohol is thrown entirely in the scale of the animal impulses against the reason, judgment, and conscience, and it is evident that where these are just able to hold the baser passions in subjection and maintain the mind's equipoise, the effect of the disturbing agent must be to destroy the mental balance and tell disastrously upon the conduct. That when liquors are taken in sufficient quantity to produce their characteristic and desired effect, the mind is in some way jostled and disturbed, no observing person can doubt, and that this disturbance, however trifling it may be, consists in replacing the reasoning and voluntary powers by blind passionate forces in the mind's government, is proved by the fact that if more of the stimulant be taken, the revolution becomes complete; reason is entirely prostrated, and brute impulse is in the ascendant. In intoxication the action of the brain is so deeply perverted as completely to unhinge the mind, thought is confused and bewildered, self-directing power is lost, the passions are stimulated to unrestrained fury, and the whole mental fabric is swamped amid the surges of delirium. Intoxication is universally admitted to be a state of temporary insanity. To "intoxicate," says Webster, is "to excite the spirits to a kind of delirium; to elate to enthusiasm, frenzy, or madness." That such is the effect of alcoholic liquors is shown by the fact that they are universally known as "intoxicating liquors." Thus the common term by which they are designated connects them at once with man's mental constitution as a cause of frenzy, delirium, and madness.

In ordinary intoxication the insane paroxysm is transient, ceasing when the provocative has exhausted itself, or is burned away by respiration and expelled from the system. Yet mental quietude is by no means immediately regained; the billows continue to roll after the storm has passed. Exhaustion and prostration follow the high-wrought excitement. The intellectual powers are torpid; the temper is sour and irritable; the passions morbidly excitable; and the craving for more of the stimulant to arouse the depressed energies is almost irresistible. That the habitual or frequent plying of the brain and nervous system with this fiery agent, even though not taken in excessive quantities, should interfere with their healthy nutritive changes, and give rise to a more permanent form of mental disorder, is what might well be expected, and what experience sadly confirms. There is a class of horrible maladies of the nervous system, involving the most melancholy perversions of mind, which are directly produced by this cause. In some instances the delirious excitement continues and greatly increases after the immediate effects of the liquor have passed away. This is the case with what is termed *delirium Ebricosum*, or drunken madness, which is marked, among other symptoms, by an ungovernable and furious violence of temper. In *delirium tremens*, or delirium with tremblings, the mental perturbation is characterised by the most

distressing anxieties and agonizing apprehensions of injury and danger. The victim is under the influence of frightful illusions, sleeping or waking. His passions, particularly those of fear, jealousy and anger, have "an uncontrollable mobility; his desires and aversions are equally morbid, and the will displays a wild and sleepless energy of action." A common hallucination is that of being haunted by fields and demons, and of feeling snakes, spiders, and vermin crawling over the naked flesh. Under the influence of these horrible delusions, the victim often flies to suicide, or kills others in fancied self-defence. *Delirium tremens*, is simply the result of disordered brain nutrition. It may be brought on by habitual tipping, many having been attacked by it who were never positively drunk. It may be the result of the nervous exhaustion which follows a debauch, or it may occur from want of liquor, and the brain being so completely perverted as to be incapable of anything like regular action, except under the influence of the stimulant. *Dipsomania* is a kind of paroxysm or mania brought on by drinking, in which the individual is consumed by an overwhelming passion for stimulants. He is driven to seek them by the most headlong and resistless impulses, which make him reckless of all consequences.

The use of alcohol not only engenders these special forms of delirium and mania, but is the most active of all the sources of settled mental derangement. Dr Beck, in enumerating the causes of insanity, mentions first "repeated intoxication", and the statistics of lunatic asylums show that from ten to twenty, and in some cases even fifty per cent. of all the cases recorded, were directly traceable to the use of Alcoholic Liquors. Predisposition to insanity, as is well known, is hereditary. Conditions of nervous weakness and brain disease are transmissible; and so, too, is the peculiar condition of the nervous and cerebral system of the drunkard. It is a fact of terrible import, that the inebriate transmits to his offspring that peculiar disordered state of the nervous mechanism which causes a craving for the stimulant—he bequeaths a ready made constitutional appetite for alcoholic poison. The habitual drunkard also transmits to his children strong tendencies to insanity and idiocy. In a report on idiocy, made by Dr Howe to the Legislature of Massachusetts, we find the following astounding statement: "The habits of the parents of three hundred of the idiots were learned, and a hundred and forty-five, or nearly *one-half*, are reported as known to be habitual drunkards!" Such parents, it is affirmed, "give a lax constitution to their children, who are consequently deficient in bodily and vital energy, and predisposed by their very organization to have cravings for alcoholic stimulants. Many of these children are feeble, and live irregularly. Having a lower vitality, they feel the want of some stimulation. If they pursue the course of their fathers, which they have more temptation to follow and less power to avoid than the children of the temperate, they add to their hereditary weakness and increase the tendency to idiocy in their constitutions, and thus they leave to their children after them."

(To be continued.)

AN APPEAL TO THE MILITARY COMPOSING THE GARRISON OF HALIFAX, N. S.

OCTOBER, 1856.

[At the late Annual Session of the Grand Division, a Committee was appointed to prepare an Address to the Military. The following is a copy of the document]:—

The Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of Nova Scotia, in Annual Session convened, address you with words of friendship and congratulation upon your arrival in our Province. In this quiet part of her majesty's dominions, the British Soldier has ever found a cordial reception from a people, whose loyalty and attachment to the parent country have become proverbial. In behalf of the Sons of Temperance of Nova Scotia we extend to you a fraternal welcome.

Most of you have lately been engaged in contest with a powerful foe, by whose hands many of your comrades have fallen, exposure, cold and disease have swept numbers from your ranks into a premature grave; yet by the protecting hand of Divine Providence you have been brought to dwell for a season among us, where peaceful days and nights, and many of the enjoyments of home, will happily relieve the turmoils, the dangers, and the miseries of war. Long may Peace reign! and the brave defenders of our country be spared to enjoy, for the remainder of their lives, in comfort and tranquility the laurels they have so nobly won.

Soldiers! Defenders of an Empire on which the Sun never sets! Servants of a Queen who reigns in the hearts of millions! The nation of which you form a part, is among the foremost in the promotion of knowledge, civilization and benevolence; in this— one of her most favoured colonies—we proudly own our descent and our allegiance; we enjoy the liberality of Britain's laws and institutions, and repose securely under the protection of her gallant armies and fleets.

Amidst these propitious circumstances, we should be wanting in gratitude, were we not to feel an interest in your welfare. It is our duty to inform you where dangers lie, that you may avoid them, and remain uninjured. It is true that no hostile armies here challenge your prowess, but there is here, as elsewhere, an insidious foe, whose fatal shafts, more destructive than Russian bullets, have oft and again caused the wailing notes of the Dead March to echo through our streets. That foe is Strong Drink—his haunts, the tavern, licensed, or unlicensed. Soldiers! shun these haunts as you would shun the pest-house. Remember how many of your companions in arms have gone, in the very pride of manhood, to graves of shame, who but for Strong Drink, might have been living this day in honour and happiness. Be warned by their fate!

We doubt not there are those among you who more than once have faced death and are ready to face it again for your Queen and country, but we would remind you that there is a moral courage still more noble than the intrepidity which marches, without flinching, upon the blazing battery, or into the deadly breach. We call upon you to add this higher courage to the manly valour for which you are already distinguished; we ask you as men to rise superior to the shackles of a custom wholly pernicious, and to meet the sneer of the foolish with the calm indifference of those, who have chosen the more excellent way. You will perhaps be told, that Strong

Drink is requisite to enable you to endure the extremes of our climate. This, from experience and observation, we deny and we invite you, earnestly, as fellow-subjects, countrymen, friends and Christians, to shun the cup of intoxication, and the places where it is dispensed. Total abstinence is safe, profitable, healthful, and calculated to induce in you a just appreciation of those higher and holier pursuits, which will give pure and lasting joy.

Soldiers' many of your profession have in time past joined our ranks. Some of your comrades now in this garrison, have united with us—relying on Divine assistance—to abstain from Strong Drink. We invite you all. Come,—you will be safer yourselves, and your example may be beneficial to others. It gives us pleasure to see the badges of honour so proudly won and worn by you,—we wish you to accept at our hands another badge, one that betokens victory over appetite, and that indicates good-will to your fellow-men.

Wearing this badge and adhering faithfully to the pledge it implies, you may be instrumental in saving many from the sad fate of the drunkard, and the recollection even of one such case, will afford you, at the close of your career, more real satisfaction, than the memory of the most brilliant campaign in which you have ever been engaged.

ALEXANDER MCARTHUR, G.W.P.
PATRICK MONAGHAN, G.S.

THE RECLAIMED ONE.

The subject of this sketch was born in a town where there are many religious advantages. As he grew up into life he presented the appearance of a strong active young man. He was high in the Sabbath-school and possessed a clear knowledge of the essential truth of the Gospel. He was full of energy and hope and was quickly tempted into the public-house, jovial companions gathered around him and soon the majority of them became servile and degraded worshippers of Bacchus.

They talked and sang in favour of strong drink. Some of them met every night, and all manner of wicked and loose schemes were devised in order that they might obtain it.—He was young and soon drawn into the spirit of those who preferred the tap-room to any other place, and there, amidst all that which is low, vulgar, foul, obscene, and blasphemous, he spent much of his time. This was the place he loved, and it was filled with smoke, and drink, and mothers were called the "old folks," and thus they revelled in degradation and lived as though there was no God.

His natural talents were very good; he was sharp and intellectually quick; what he said he could say well, and, though not educated, he possessed a large amount of good practical common sense. He became an oracle. And as his volubility increased, so did his love for strong drink. At first he apprehended no danger. It was true he could not sleep well, and in the morning his head ached, and his tongue was feverish, and his appetite nearly gone, then his hands began to tremble, and the fact was forced upon his friends that he was now a confirmed drunkard. He drank five, seven, ten, and sometimes more than a dozen pints of beer per day, and like all other drunkards, still craved for more. He was married, and every domestic comfort was sacrificed, the furniture of the house was loose and broken, and all was dreary and desolate. He was a strong powerful man, with a nervous sanguine temperament, and when under the

influence of drink his looks were fearful and his curses terrible. In the midst of social, moral, and religious advantages he was pressing his way like a fool and madman down to the drunkard's grave. Society had given him up for lost. He was a drunkard, and no drunkard had been reclaimed in that town, they had lived and died, but had not been reclaimed, and who could hope for him? There was no Temperance society in that place, nor did the inhabitants know that strong drink could be done without. At length the glorious news of total abstinence reached that town, the hearts of a few friends were warm and devoted. The publicans were alarmed, and some of the drunkards were violent and the subject of this sketch was the most violent of them all. When the first meeting was announced he was loud in denunciation and vowed vengeance against those who should dare to speak against strong drink. And some were afraid that his violence would lead to desperation, There is an overruling Providence, and the hand of God is clearly seen in the Temperance reformation. The meeting was held and good was done, and in the course of a short time he had an opportunity of listening, and he happily resolved to sign the pledge; the drunkards laughed, and the people were astonished. He not only signed it but he has kept it, and is now a living trophy of the Temperance cause.

We knew him when he was a drunkard, and we know him now; he is a sober man.—Then he was ragged, now he is a gentleman. Then he was a swearer, now he has ceased to swear. Then he was a wretched husband, now he is a good husband. Then his wife was sorrowful, now she is happy. Then he was poor, now he is a man of considerable property. Then he was a howling and blasphemous declaimer in the tap-room, and he is now the earnest humorous speaker on the platform. Then his house was small and scanty, now it is large and well furnished.

Then his wife could hardly get a decent cotton dress, now she can appear as the wives of all good and sober men should in dresses which are truly respectable. Then he used to be laughed at and despised, now he is consulted and respected. Then he was called drunken Jack, now he is called Mr John, and not unfrequently are letters received with the complimentary appendage of Esq. Then he was lost, now he is found. Then his prospects were dark, now they are bright. Then he repaired to the public-house, now he wends his way to the sanctuary of the most High where he can listen to truths which relate not only to this world but to that which is to come.

During the first twelve months of his abstinence, though often invited, he refused to appear before the public; at the expiration of that time, however, he was able to tell the people what had been his feelings, and how much he had been benefited, and since that time he has had an opportunity of telling his tale in his own way. His style is masculine, impetuous, and very original, and, considering the limited education he has received, his flow of words is astonishing. He is so simple-minded, easy, earnest, and good-natured, that even his blunders are sometimes rendered very effective.

He is tall and powerful. His speech is generally without an introduction, for he plunges at once into the subject, and his theme is *What I was and what I am*. We have seen him at the table of the literary and the wealthy, and there he has secured attention and

respect. We have seen him at his new home; and once, in the company of a Doctor of Divinity, had the pleasure of dining there.—It was clean and well finished; and his good little wife, of whom he so humorously and affectionately speaks, had caused the dinner to be served up in a style which would secure the approval of either lady or gentleman.

But the place to see him is on the platform. At the bidding of the chairman he rises. His first few sentiments are generally short and sententious, the attention of all parties is arrested. We have heard him speak when some of the first men in the country have been delighted. The ladies, too, have listened with intense interest, especially to those quaint and original remarks which he makes in reference to household matters and to his own good little wife. We have seen the educated and polite delighted, while the blooming servant-maid and the plough-boy have manifested unbounded approval. He was not always facetious; On one occasion we heard him speak of a number of his companions who used to join him in his drunken frolics. They were nearly thirty in number, and with the exception of one or two they were all either dead or transported. He stood alone, not a staggering drunkard, but a sober man. We were reminded of Job's messenger, who said—"I am only escaped alone to tell thee." He felt himself like a brand plucked from the burning; and we experienced unbounded delight in knowing that we stood connected with a principle which had rescued a brother from the jaws of death. He is now healthy and strong; and long may he and his good little wife live, and may God bless them!—*Weekly Record*.

THE THIRTY THOUSAND DEAD.

Extract from a Sermon, Preached by Rev. Mr. Diehl, of California.

Thirty thousand persons have perished in California since the breaking out of the "Gold fever." By far the greatest part on have died from strong drink. What I have told you will give you no idea of the ravages of this curse. One of our Supreme Court Judges has died of delirium tremens. One of our State Attorney Generals; our State Printer; our State Surveyor—all have died of the drink. And still this curse is permitted. Still the traffic is licensed by law. I have seen the licenses, granted by authority; and I have seen the skulls and the bones of these men; conspicuous victims of those same licenses, bleaching and rotting in the sun. Of all the thirty thousand who have died in California since 1848, I doubt if 100 have died by natural causes. The climate is remarkably healthy. I never breathed air which is so exhilarating. And yet, for the most part, through Rum, thirty thousand citizens, some buried and some unburied, sleep the sleep of death, under those delightful skies. Is not the liquor traffic a reproach to this people? Has not the sin of Intemperance proved itself "a lessening of the tribes?" It is so, men and brethren, all over this country. And I appeal to you as Christians, to help put down this system, this law-sanctioned traffic—put it down by law.

Of all the evils suffered by California, Rum is at the bottom. You hear of stuffed ballot-boxes. It is Rum that stuffed those boxes. You hear that our highly beloved King, the most honored and influential Editor of the State, is shot down in open day. Rum shot him down. Rum calls for Vigilance Commit-

tees. Fifty pistols have been taken to a house, loaded, to shoot the humble individual before you, who dares to war against Rum. I have not hesitated to declare the whole counsel on this subject; and to avow my desire to see the selling of Rum classed among the gravest offences known to the law.

Brethren, as a Minister of Religion, I profess to know something of the power of the Gospel. But I confess myself dismayed at the idea of preaching the Gospel to men whose consciences are burnt up with rum. Their moral sense is seared as with a hot iron. It is for this reason I have devoted so much time and energy to make men sober, that they may come to our churches and hear the saving truths of religion. Why even ministers have died of strong drink in California. I remember one venerable old preacher, who for thirty years had been known as a zealous and pious man. He has taken the very Sabbath collections, and gone and got drunk. It was thought his wife would go mad. A bill for \$100 was presented, all for whiskey. A daughter pledged her school money, her needle money, to pay it—only don't sue for it, don't expose her father.

When I spoke once at Martenas, an old lady was among the number who signed the pledge. But as she did so, she exclaimed—"Oh! it is too late! It cannot save my son!" And now my hearers, what a tale of anguish and of sorrow. That woman's son had been Judge of the county; but he drank. He had been a member of the Legislature; but he drank. At last he became furious and in a moment of rage, he cursed his mother! This was too much. She sunk in a swoon to the floor, exclaiming—"My own son has cursed me!" Nor is this all. He drew his pistols and blew his own brains out; and his brains fell upon that mother, who had already fainted away. And now, fellow Christians, hear another startling fact. That son was raised up in one of your Methodist churches; and was long a member of a Methodist Sabbath School! Shall we not rush to rescue the country from strong drink. Is it not time to arouse when it thus "lessens the tribes" among those of our own household?

Once in my travels in behalf of Temperance, I saw a crowd. A coroner's jury was being held. A Judge, and a W. P. of a Division of the Sons of Temperance had been murdered. It was Rum that did it. I looked upon the corpse. *He was one of my mates at college!*

I saw another crowd. A man lay dead whom nobody knew. His pockets were examined, and letters were found, one to, and others from his wife. He had told her he had signed the pledge. He was a Son of Temperance. He was not so. He had told his wife so, because he knew it would comfort her. She said, "My dear husband, I and the children pray daily that you may be kept from drink." Tear-drops were on the letters. He died of drink. The husband of that wife, the father of those children, like thousands of others in California, lies in a drunkard's grave.

Ten thousand men are dying at this moment in California of strong drink if I may not say they are dead already. They are burnt up by these alcoholic liquors. And what a "reproach" this enormous sin is sanctioned by the government, and I cannot assail the man who obtains license, so much as the government who grants it, and the people who allow it. The liquor seller needs his license. He needs it on earth. He will need

it at the bar of God. If I had a father who sold rum, I would have him obtain a license by all means. If he was one of the 800 who now sell in this city, I would have him obtain, if possible, the signatures of all the praying men and all the clergy in Albany. I would want all the good men and all the good women to certify that my father sold rum for the "public good." I would have it framed, and put up in the most conspicuous place in the bar-room, among the rum-jugs and decanters—
"FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD."

Poetry.

THAT MAN DESERVES YOUR PRAISE.

Know you a man whose early life
Had little promise but of care,
Whose prospects in this world of strife
Were anything but fair;
Who yet has, step by step, uprose
Above the dreams of earlier days,
And smiles upon his youthful woes?—
That man deserves your praise.

Know you a man whose soul outpours
Wild music to melodious spheres,
Who moves mankind's half-hidden stores
Of joyfulness and tears;
Who sings of what is good and fair,
And wishes strife and warlike frays
Had ceased to cause mankind despair?—
That man deserves your praise.

Know you a man of wealth and fame
Who kindly lendeth to the poor,
Not seeking to blaze forth his name
At every rich man's door;
Who daily doeth good by stealth
In many different kindly ways?
That man has lofty moral health—
That man deserves your praise.

Know you a man who aids to teach
True moral worth to fellow-men,
By life and action, time and speech,
By payment and by pen;
Who shows unto the rising race
A thousand pleasing rainbow rays
Throughout this vast created space?—
That man deserves your praise.

THE RUM FIEND.

BY CHARLES MACKAY.

The Rum Fiend cast his eyes abroad,
And looked o'er all the land,
And numbered its myriad worshippers
With his bird-like, long right hand.
He took his place in the teeming street,
And watched the people go:
Around and about with a buzz and a shout
Forever to and fro.
"And it's hip!" said the Rum Fiend, "hip,
hurra!
For the multitudes I see,
Who offer themselves a sacrifice,
And die for the love of me."

There stood a woman on a bridge,
She was old, but not with years—
Old with excess, and passion and pain,
As she wept remorseful tears
As she gave to her babe her milkless breast;
Then goaded by its cry,
Made a desperate leap in the river deep,
In the sight of the passers by!

"And it's hip!" said the Rum Fiend, "hip,
hurra!
She sinks, and let her be,
In life or death, whatever she did,
Was all for the love of me."

There watched another by the hearth,
With sullen face and thin!
She uttered words of scorn and hate
To one who staggered in.
Long had she watched, and when he came
His thoughts were bent on blood,
He could not brook her taunting look,
And he slew her where she stood.
"And it's hip!" said the Rum Fiend, "hip,
hurra!
My right good friend is he;
He hath slain his wife, he hath given his life,
And all for the love of me."

And every day, in the crowded way
He takes his fearful stand,
And numbers his myriad worshippers
With his bird-like, long right hand;
And every day, the weak and strong,
Widows, and maids, and wives,
Blood warm, blood cold, young men and old,
Offer the Fiend their lives.
"And it's hip!" he says, "hip! hip! hurra!
For the multitudes I see,
That sell their souls for the burning drink,
And die for the love of me."

Review.

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

This is a book that will sell. More than that—it will be read, and pondered on, till the very depths of men's hearts are stirred, and their feelings find utterance in burning words and bold actions. Conviction will become fervour, and fervour will be changed into enthusiasm.—Opponents will gnash at it, and wish for the good old days when no book could be printed without being licensed, which amounted, of course, in a great many instances, to absolute prohibition. There will be no attempt to reply. How can such a book be answered? It is made up of arguments founded on *facts*—notorious, indisputable facts, derived from parliamentary returns and other documents, perfectly trustworthy. Now, these facts cannot be got rid of, and the arguments that rest on them will continue unshaken.

Here is an *Encyclopædia of Prohibition*. The subject is considered in every point of view, and profusely illustrated by documentary evidence and statistical details. As a book of reference it will be invaluable. Every Temperance institution should procure a copy, and every Temperance student and lecturer should make himself thoroughly acquainted with its contents.

We said something in a former number about re-printing this work. Our American friends will probably issue an edition of their own; but we question if they will be able to furnish it at as cheap a rate as the original publisher, for we understand that it can be imported from England on such reasonable terms that it may be sold here for two shillings a copy. We hope that some enterprising bookseller will venture to supply himself with a large stock.

The work is divided into eight chapters, the titles of which are thus expressed:—1. That it is wrong and impolitic for a state to sanction, or license, injurious trades or institutions.—2. That the traffic in intoxicating liquor is anti-social, and ought therefore to be prohibited.—3. That all past legislation, based on the principle of regulating, instead of suppressing, the traffic, is unsatisfactory.—4. That the traffic is indefensible, either on the ground of gain or national revenue.—5. That the prohibition of the traffic is compatible with just liberty and legitimate commerce.—6. That the suppression of the traffic would powerfully promote civilization.—7. That the history of restrictive legislation in North America, and the experiments of a Prohibitory law, illustrate and confirm the positions of the Alliance, (the object of the Alliance being “to call forth and direct an enlightened public opinion to procure the total and immediate legislative suppression of the traffic in all intoxicating liquors as beverages”).—8. That all good citizens should combine to procure an enactment prohibiting the sale of intoxicating beverages, as affording most efficient aid in removing the evils of intemperance.

An extract from the first chapter will place the subject clearly before our readers, and at the same time furnish a fair specimen of Dr Lee's style:—

“Government,—which we speak of as the organ and executive of the people,—has, at one time, attempted too much, and, at another, too little. Just like the individuals whose aggregate character and intelligence it represented, it has done the things it ought not, and left undone the things it ought to have done. Notably it has licensed and legally sanctioned the traffic in strong liquors, which it ought to have prohibited as the fountain of three-fourths of the social corruptions and crimes, for the prevention of which all prohibitory statutes are professedly in force. From the records of history—difficult as it may be to extricate a positive, universal principle of law—one negative proposition stands clearly out. The professed object of every combination called SOCIETY, in contradistinction to various forms of tyranny, has been the protection of rights, person, and property, as the essential condition of social progress. This implies, first, the right to resist the injurious actions of the selfish or ignorant, and the wilful aggression of the wicked; and, second, the right to enforce whatever else is necessary as a means to this end, and to the developing

of a true civilization. Under the first head we may range, not only laws against felony, but against filth; laws against lotteries, betting-houses, and obscene exhibitions:—under the second head we may cite the institution of private property in land, the consequent prohibitions of trespass, the laws of marriage, the making of drains, and the compulsory levy of taxation. It must be evident, then, that any State which licenses a system tending to crime, improvidence and disease, not merely lends the prestige and authority of its incorporated virtue to that which is evil, but frustrates the purposes of its own existence—in fine, perpetrates social suicide, and commits a kind of political *felo de se*. St Paul represents the Law as ‘a terror to evil-doers, and a praise to them that do well’; the Liquor Traffic inverts this maxim, so that the Law virtually becomes ‘a temptation to evil-doing, and a terror and burden to them that do well.’”

In the second chapter, the position is taken that the protection which the State offers to society includes individual security, social security, and social development, all which are contravened by the Liquor Traffic. In support of this assertion, the Report of the Parliamentary Committee on Drunkenness, in 1834, is quoted. That Report shows that the vice of intoxication (and, as Dr Lees justly observes, “the traffic is the national fountain of this intoxication”) produces the following consequences to national welfare, viz.: the destruction of grain—the loss of productive labor—extensive loss of property—inefficiency of the Navy and Army—the increase of pauperism—the spread of crime—and the retardation of all improvement. Other documents are also referred to. The conclusion is, that such a traffic ought to be prohibited.

The third chapter contains an astounding collection of facts, illustrating the injurious character of the Liquor Traffic, and the ill success of all attempts to regulate it. But our space is limited this month, and we must postpone further notice till our next number. One more extract, however, may be given:—

“The great enemies of civilization have been enumerated, and their workings revealed by the impressive eloquence of facts at the least. *Drunkenness*, in its folly, its revel, and its beastliness has staggered across the vision; *Poverty*, clothed with the rags of innocence and the filth of vice, has filed past; *Ignorance*, with her sightless orbs, and her dim and hopeless children, have groped on to the darkness beyond; *Prostitution*, in flaunting robes of guilt, with the heart on fire of hell, has gone shrinking and mocking, onwards to the flowing stream beyond the ‘Bridge of Sighs’; *Disease* has withdrawn its curtain, that we might see its lazar victims stretched on their ‘beds abhorred’; *Idiocy*, with incoherent gibbering and lack lustre eyes, has shown itself; *Insanity*, with her multiplied children (here ‘moping melancholy,’ there raving madness,) have also come up and vanished from the sickened sight; *Brutal Lust*, fiercely glaring upon outraged chastity, has stalked by; and the fearful panorama has closed with *Crime*, appared in garments purple with the blood of

victims. Were the great social fountain of these evils dried up, how infinite would be the gains of civilization! That fountain is the liquor traffic.”—p. 229.

(To be continued.)

SPEED ON RAILWAYS.—Dr Lardner adopts some ingenious arguments, or rather illustrations, to show the velocity with which Express trains move in England. The great Western Express to Exeter runs at the rate of 43 miles an hour, including stoppages, or 53 miles, not including stoppages. To attain this rate, a speed of 60 miles an hour is adapted midway between some of the stations, and in certain experimental trips, 70 miles an hour have been reached. A speed of 70 miles an hour is equivalent to 35 yards per second—35 yards between two beats of a common clock. All objects near the eye of a passenger travelling at this rate will pass by the eye in the 35th part of a second; and if 35 stakes were erected at the side of the road a yard asunder, they would not be distinguished one from another; if painted red, they would appear collectively as a continuous flash of red color.

WORDS AND THOUGHTS.—We copy for the edification of all whose vocation it is to write or speak for the public benefit, the following suggestive passages.—“Redundancy of language is never found without deep reflection. Verbiage may indicate observation, but not thinking. He who thinks much, says but little in proportion to his thoughts. He selects that language which will convey his ideas in the most explicit and direct manner. He tries to compress as much thought as possible in a few words. On the contrary, the man who talks everlastingly and promiscuously, who seems to have an inexhaustible magazine of sound, crowds so many words into his thoughts that he always obscures, and very often conceals them. Some time ago it was said by Cottar, ‘An era is fast approaching, when no writer will be read by the majority, save and except those who can effect that for bales of manuscript, that the hydrostatic screw performs for bales of cotton, by condensing that matter into a period that before occupied pages.’”

BOOKS.—Captain Hamley, in his tale of “Lady Lee's Widowhood,” says:—“After reading a well written book the halls of my brain are thronged with a goodly company. I wish I could bid them stay, and make that house their home; but in a short time they depart, as from the roof of a stranger, and the place thereof knows them no more. It is these transient visits from the children of genius that gives me such a respect for genius itself. I cannot help reverencing and envying spirits which can, almost at will, evoke images of such grace and power that a mere glimpse of them suffices to make a humble nature happy.”

CORNERS.—Corners have always been popular. The chimney-corner, for instance, endeared to the heart from the earliest to the latest hour of our existence. The corner cupboard! what stores of sweet things has it contained for us in our youth—with what luxuries its shelves have groaned in manhood! A snug corner in a will! who ever objected to such a thing! A corner in a woman's heart! once get there, and you may soon command the entire domain. A corner in the Temple of Fame! arrive at that, and you become immortal

THE ABSTAINER.

Halifax, N.S. December 15, 1856.

WE beg to call the special attention of the Subordinate Divisions to the seasonable and important address of the G. W. P., which will be found in another column.

SENEX's communication, with his proposed penal clauses, to be embodied in a new License Law, should such an one be framed, or added to the present Law, should it be continued, will probably elicit various thoughts and feelings. Some will entirely approve his propositions, judging that we cannot do better than adopt some such measures, now that there is no present hope of Prohibition. Others will reject them altogether, as unsuitable and impracticable.

Our worthy friend's reasoning amounts to this:—The Legislature, in the last session, suspended action on the Prohibitory Law, till the result of the experiment in New Brunswick should appear, and will not now do any thing, the New Brunswick Law having been repealed; but they have declared themselves in favour of the principle, and are bound to do all in their power to prevent the evils arising from the traffic which they still allow the continuance of; they are aware of those evils, and most of them have been charged by their constituents to remove them out of the way. If, therefore, on whatever grounds, they decline enacting a Prohibitory Law, they cannot refuse to take such steps as may appear best adapted to neutralise the confessedly bad tendencies of the drinking establishments. They are under greater obligations to do this, inasmuch as it is manifestly incumbent on them to give us an effectual substitute for Prohibition, supposing that such a substitute can be found. The only substitute that can be imagined is a stringent License Law, faithfully executed. *Senex* has drafted some clauses for that Law.

Let them try it. If they will not give us Prohibition, let them give us what may be deemed the next best thing to it, but by all means in honesty and good faith, or else they had better let it alone. That is—members of the House must take care not to nullify their own acts,

by assuming one character at Halifax and another at home. And if they wish to gratify the friends of morality and good order by placing severe checks and restraints on the Rum traffic, in the manner proposed by *Senex*, they must impress on the Executive the necessity of looking after the Magistracy. It is utterly in vain to enact restrictive laws unless vigorous, upright, fearless magistrates can be found, to carry them into execution.

We have no faith in any thing short of Prohibition. You may regulate and arrange as you please, but while you have the "accursed thing" among you, under the sanction of the law, your efforts at amelioration will fail. For if you first license a trade, and then fence it round with such restrictions that the trade cannot be profitably carried on, will those restrictions be enforced? Will not magistrates decline to interfere, and the public look on with indifference? The only effective remedy for existing evils is the suppression of the traffic in intoxicating liquor, as a beverage.

They repealed the Prohibitory Law in Maine, and replaced it by a stringent License Law. What is the result? The License Law has proved a mere sham, and Maine is again deluged with drunkenness. The next move will be the re-enactment of Prohibition, and then Maine will be herself again.

If Temperance men are true to the cause, the next House of Assembly will be a *Prohibition-House*. That is the object we now aim at. Men may be Conservatives or Liberals, or any thing else they please, but if they want our votes they must be *Prohibition-men*. There must be no mistake about that. We give fair warning of our intentions. Let the politicians on all sides lay it to heart.

Possibly some think that the extreme measure (as they affect to regard Prohibition) may be avoided, by such enactments as *Senex* suggests. Well—make the trial. The field is before you. If you can accomplish our object without the adoption of our policy, do so. We shall rejoice in your success. But we have no hope of it. Your failure, however, will pave the way for Prohibition.

Our correspondent "Micmac" will accept our thanks for his suggestions, which

will be made use of as occasions occur. It has appeared expedient to us, on the whole, not to print his letter, as some points referred to in it are better discussed in the Division Room than in a public Journal. We beg to remind our correspondent that the Deputies are appointed by the G. W. P., and are amenable to him only.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—We learn from *Howard's Gazette* that "the Annual Session of the Grand Division was held in Charlottetown on Thursday, Oct. 30th. The election of officers and all the proceedings of the meeting were conducted with the unanimity and cordial courtesy that characterise the Brotherhood. Several representatives from the Subordinate Divisions in the rural districts were present, 'good men and true,' who gave unmistakable assurance of their unflinching devotion to the cause of God and humanity."

The officers for the Grand Division of Prince Edward Island for the year 1856-7 are—

G. W. P.—REV C. J. BURNETT.

G. W. A.—MR JOHN RIDER.

G. Scribe—MR P. DESBRISAY.

G. T.—MR G. R. BEER.

G. Chaplain—REV J. McMURRAY.

G. Conductor—MR JAMES EVANS.

G. Sentinel—MR JOHN SCOTT.

P. G. W. P.—MR J. W. MORRISON.

Mr J. Arbuckle is re-appointed General Agent. We shall be happy to report his proceedings, and we trust he will act as "General Agent" for the *Abstainer*. It will give us great pleasure to send a thousand copies to Prince Edward Island. Our correspondent, whose letter appears in another column, gives a gloomy account of the state of Temperance affairs. The next communication, we trust, will be more cheering.

WE have received the following *Query*:—

MR. EDITOR,—

Dear Sir,—Will you, or some of your correspondents, have the goodness to inform us, through the columns of the *Abstainer*, whether a Son of Temperance, or member of a Temperance Society, is justified by his pledge in voting for a candidate for warden, or for the office of councillor, having authority to license grog shops; knowing such candidate to

be in favour of granting licenses—also in the habit of allowing any quantity of liquors to be imported in his vessel, and of using it as a beverage himself?

Your's, &c.,

INTEROGATOR.

In our opinion, there can be no doubt on the subject. We shall get the victory at last; but it will not be, till Temperance men are faithful to pledge and principle at all polling places.

OUR readers will peruse with pleasure the communications from Sydney, C. B., and Chester. Other brethren, it is hoped, will follow the example of those correspondents.

WANTED.—A large subscription list for the *Abstainer*. Thanks to those who support us. If every subscriber will procure another, we shall be still more thankful. *Support the Press.*

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

OFFICERS AND BRETHREN,—

At the commencement of my term of office as G. W. P. of the G. D. of our Order, in this Province, it may not be out of place to offer you a few suggestions connected with the interests of the cause of Temperance in our midst.

The Sons of Temperance are universally acknowledged as the leaders in this great moral enterprise in this Province. Such being the position assigned us, in the Providence of God, our responsibilities are correspondingly great.

We must see to it that our numbers do not diminish, but increase, and that we put forth efforts in keeping with our position and resources; and also that we act consistently and energetically in view of the exigencies of the case. You will see, in referring to the Journal of the Annual Session recently held in Halifax, and to the "Reports" of your late G. W.

P. and G. S., that our numbers are not on the increase, but on the contrary exhibit a considerable falling off. Various reasons have been assigned for this retrograde movement. I will not now advert to these reasons, but would urge the consideration of the first as abundant cause why we should set ourselves with renewed zeal to revive the Order. We commence this year under auspicious cir-

cumstances. The spirit breathed by the Annual Session, as manifest by the Journal, is such as is fitted to quicken the Subordinate Divisions with new life.—

We have reaffirmed in the most distinct and positive manner that "Prohibition" is our watchword—that it is right—that it is constitutional. We have in effect pledged ourselves to endeavour by every proper means in our power to effect such a change of our Legislature as that the wishes of the Temperance people of this Province shall be respected. This is taking, in my opinion, the proper ground, and such as is calculated to fire every true Temperance man with fresh resolution and energy.

The Grand Division has been fortunate in securing the services of a Grand Scribe, whose past efforts in the cause of Temperance and the Order, are sufficient guarantee that the duties of that office will be faithfully and zealously discharged. I wish to call your serious attention to these words in his last Report, "Look to Maine, the pioneer in the cause of Prohibition. See how nobly her people have again come out in favour of the Law, notwithstanding the exultations of its opponents at what they considered to be the final suppression of all agitation by the action of the voters in 1855. How nobly did her sons redeem themselves—on the 8th of September last—by triumphantly returning one of the candidates for the office of Governor—who is an avowed Prohibitionist—with a majority of between 15,000 and 16,000 votes. Let us imitate the example of our brethren in Maine," &c. Memorable words! Give heed to them, Sons of Temperance in Nova Scotia. It must come to this—what we have scarcely yet thought to do in this Province. We must do as they do in Maine—VOTE THE TRAFFIC DOWN.

Appeals to the Legislature will not do. It is a waste of time, money and energy, so to do. The G. D. have wisely determined to pursue a different course—in a word to do as they have done in Maine, and in every other community where the Law has been carried into successful operation,—go with their principles to the polls. It is there, and only there, where we can make ourselves sensibly felt, and where our efforts can be carried to a proper issue.

Sons of Temperance, become more

thoroughly combined with your own principles. Know that in this struggle there is involved the greatest political principle of the age, which cannot consistently be set aside for any mere party question whatsoever. Interfere with no view or predilection of a political nature which involves a denial of your Temperance principles. Seek to persuade all parties with your views, but go with none of them any farther than they will go with you. Let them not control you, but seek to control them, because you consider Temperance legislation of supreme and fundamental importance, and which must not be sacrificed at the shrine of party interests. Know no man as a politician or candidate for legislative honours who is not a known and pledged prohibitionist. Do as they have done in Maine, and similar results will follow your action.

I congratulate you on the appearance of your organ, the *Abstainer*. Let it be sustained. It gives its advocacy to the views I have set forth. It gives me unfeigned pleasure to state that the officers, the Minutes, and the organ of the G. D. show that the Order in this Province is committed to the action here recommended. We have assumed high vantage ground. Let it be uncompromisingly maintained. We commence the work *de novo*. Let us learn wisdom from the past, and gird on the armour afresh with the determination that we will not be diverted from our purpose by the specious arguments of interested politicians addressed to our party feelings and prejudices. Be, for the next three years, men of one idea,—as inflexibly wedded to Temperance political action, as ever a Wilberforce, or a Clarkson was, to the abolition of Slavery and the Slave Trade. Other bodies, both in our own and other countries, are marching to this point—the creation of Temperance Legislatures. The Watchmen Order—a growing band of Temperance reformers in this country—say in the Journal of the proceedings of their recent Convention, "Prohibition is the most important question that appears on our political horizon, and should be made the issue when the public are next called upon to exercise their elective franchise." "The polls," say they "is the most effective method of securing the object desired." They have resolved "that Temperance men should support

no candidates, be their political principles what they may, unless they are known to be practical Temperance men and prohibitionists." This resolution has been journalized and sent down to the subordinate bodies for their consideration. This is taking the bull by the horns. This is doing as they do in Maine. The G. D. is committed to the same policy. Let this be remembered. Keep it before the people that you mean to petition the Legislature in such a manner as they dream not of.

To this end get your Divisions into working order. Let your halls ring with this determination until it become the guiding policy of every Subordinate Division in Nova Scotia.

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

Pictou, 18th Nov., 1856.

TEMPERANCE WATCHMEN.

The Quarterly Session was held at Old Barns, Colchester, Oct. 7th last. The following is an extract from the Quarterly Report of the Central Committee:—

The committee would call attention to the changes that transpired in our sister Province, New Brunswick, relative to the Temperance movement since our last Convention.

The Prohibitory Law has been repealed. The motives, so far as indicated by acts, and the means employed to accomplish its repeal, are alike discreditable to the heart and to the feelings of the functionary who originated this retrograde movement.

Your committee, in common with many intelligent men in both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, do not consider the present House of Assembly of that Province, a fair, or honest representation of the popular will.

There were two questions before the public at their recent election, viz: The constitutional propriety of the Governor dissolving the Assembly contrary to the will of his sworn constitutional advisers; and secondly the repeal of the Prohibitory Law. As was natural, some sections of the Province passed upon the one question and some upon the other; hence neither has been fairly tested.

The action there taken will undoubtedly be used by our Government, and other parties hostile to Prohibition, against any measure of a similar nature being adopted by our Legislature. The occurrences of last session are sufficient proof of this.

The committee would earnestly urge the necessity of all friends of Prohibition to guard against unjust advantage being taken of this circumstance.

Prohibition is the most important question that appears on our political horizon, and should be made the issue when the public are next called upon to exercise their elective franchise.

The committee would press the immediate

consideration of the most efficient means to be employed to secure a Prohibitory enactment.

From the course pursued by members of the Government and others during the last session of the Legislature relative to the Prohibitory Law then before the Assembly, the committee cannot recommend again petitioning the present House with any prospect of success; believing that at the Polls is the most effective method of securing the object desired. Committee would, however, suggest the propriety of appealing to the Legislature for a grant to employ a Temperance Lecturer to indoctrinate the public mind with the principles of Temperance and Prohibition.

Committee suggest the propriety of this Convention appointing a committee to confer with the "Sons" and other Temperance bodies with a view to secure unity of action.—Without united action we need not expect success.

Your committee see no reason for despondency on the part of Temperance men. Disappointments and defeat, though annoying and discouraging, should stimulate us to greater energy. The history of the movement for the Abolition of Slavery, and also other important questions, shows plainly, that there is sometimes greater strength ultimately in a temporary defeat, than in immediate success. Let us therefore engage afresh in the conflict, and endeavor to perform our part with implicit trust in the Supreme disposer of events, for the complete abolition of the monstrous habit and traffic against which we contend.—Respectfully submitted in Temperance, Humanity and Progress,

DANIEL McDONALD,
Sec'y Prov. Com.

New Glasgow, Pictou, Oct. 7, 1856.

The following Resolutions were passed:

1. "That a committee be appointed to confer with the 'Sons' and other Temperance bodies, with a view to secure united action on the question of Prohibition." Committee, Bros. Daniel McDonald, John McKenzie, David Marshall.

2. Whereas several of the people's representatives in General Assembly (in violation of their pledges) and the Government have manifested hostility to the principle of Prohibition, and procured the rescinding of the Prohibitory Bill passed by the House of Assembly at last session,

Therefore resolved—

"That this Convention express their strong disapprobation of the course pursued by the Government and their supporters on this question."

3. Inasmuch as the use of Intoxicating Liquors, and ignorance of the principles of Prohibition, prevail to a lamentable extent in this Province; and inasmuch as the co-operation of the people is necessary to the successful working of a Prohibitory enactment: therefore resolved—That means be adopted to indoctrinate the public mind in the principles of Prohibition.

4. Resolved—That in the opinion of this Convention, Temperance men throughout the Province, should meet in their respective counties at an early day, and choose suitable men, and bring them before the public as the candidates at the forthcoming General election.

5. On motion resolved—That in the opinion of this Convention, all Watchmen should

liberally patronize the contemplated "Abstainer."

On motion resolved—That the Secretaries write to all the clubs—urge upon them the duty of supporting such a periodical, and ascertain the number of copies each club will take.

The subjoined Preamble and Resolution were proposed:—

Whereas Prohibition is the most important question before the public, and most deeply affects the best interests of the country: therefore resolved—

"That in the opinion of this Convention Temperance men should support no candidates, be their other political principles what they may, unless they are known to be practical Temperance men and Prohibitionists"

After discussion it was resolved—

"That the resolution be journalized, and deferred until the Annual Convention—that in the interim it be sent to all the clubs for consideration—and that delegates to next Convention be prepared to decide thereon."

Committees were appointed to visit all the Clubs that are in a declining state,—to ascertain, if possible, the causes of such declension, and to endeavor to reanimate them.

It was resolved, That in future the Conventions shall be held semi-annually. The next annual meeting is to be held at Durham Village on the third Thursday in July, 1857.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—The Mic-Mac Division held a public meeting in the Division Room on Monday evening, 1st inst. The large Room was filled and many were unable to find more than standing room. The chair was filled by G. J. Creed, Esq. Rev D. Freeman opened the meeting by prayer. The Rev S. N. Bently gave an address of much force and appropriateness on the importance of unity of action. "In the western part of the country, the *Daughters of Temperance* lent their aid and influence to this good work, and he hoped they would soon be organized in a similar manner here. Old Father Temperance would then have completed his family, and the music of woman's voice, and the kindness of woman's heart, would sanctify and fortify the beneficence of Temperance men, in rescuing their fellow creatures from the horrors of intemperance.—*Messenger*

OBITUARY.

DIED at Sherbrooke, on the first day of November ultimo, in the 45th year of his age, Mr Daniel McDonald, D. G. W. P. for Wellington Division of the Sons of Temperance. He suffered through a long protracted illness, which he bore with great patience.—He was a prominent member of the Division, and while the state of his health permitted he done all he could to promote the good cause, and used his best exertions to prevent the unlawful traffic of selling intoxicating drinks without license. He left a widow and a numerous family to lament their loss.

Correspondence.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.

(From our own Correspondent.)

The Leader of our Government is a Distiller. The Mayor of the city of Charlottetown, with a majority of the Councillors, are dealers in *Rum*. The country is, comparatively speaking, deluged with beverages of an intoxicating character, and that of the very worst kind. The Sheriff for the county for this past three months has imported more of the destroying article than has been known for years past, and you cannot enter a single hamlet of this Isle of the Sea without witnessing the direful effects of the *Rum* traffic.

The unhappy change which took place in New Brunswick, by the high handed movement of the Governor, produced a baneful effect on the half-hearted Sons of Temperance in this place; many that were with us only in name now give a proof that they were not in reality of us. And it is a painful fact that some, who have borne the heat and burden of the day, have apparently become discouraged, and thrown their influence for a time into another channel. But still we live, and he is a noble spirited soul who regards his obligation and sticks to his sign, "the brethren of our beloved Order," by which ultimately we may conquer. Truth, Humanity, and God, are on the side of Temperance. Would time allow me, and could I fully draw aside the veil which hides from our view the works of darkness, as they are perpetrated with impunity against the law of our land, set aside the law of God, it would present such a scene of villany of the lowest order as would make the *Rum*-seller stand aghast! and afraid of the victims of his own creating.

Very few parents are aware of the training the youths of Charlottetown are being well drilled into;—not to fit them for the duties of life, to act their part as good citizens of society, no, my dear sir, but to make them fully meet for a *Gambler's* and a *Drunkard's Hell*. Intemperance stalks abroad in our land. The inhabitants of Charlottetown are frequently disturbed at the midnight hour, especially on the Saturday evening, by the miserable drunkard letting forth, either under idiotic pleasure or the feelings of a fiendish rage, the maddening oaths and curses of a benighted and darkened spirit. Perhaps you are ready to say, have you not drawn too dark a picture? Would to heaven I had; happy would I be if in this respect I was found in an error.

There are good and true men amongst us; but it is a difficult point, to tell the truth, whether men will hear or forbear, and especially when some, who are themselves sober men and belong to different

sections of the Church, do not feel willing to sacrifice their views upon taking the social glass, and soon in reality are dispensers of the very article which causes such breaches in our Churches and families.

ADDITIONS TO THE LICENSE LAW.

MR. EDITOR,—

The Legislature having refused the Prohibitory law under the pretext, for it is no better, that what we really want is an improved license law, and the Grand Division having resolved not to oppose any improvement of the license laws that may be brought forward, I beg to enclose to you for publication a few clauses by way of sample of what I conceive the license law requires by way of improvement. These clauses relate to the protection of families, of public decency, and of the Sabbath. They are, however, not a tittle of what is required to render any license law tolerable in an enlightened community.

I should like, if I were competent, to prepare clauses to make the *Rum*-seller and his sureties liable, in criminal prosecutions and civil action, for all the destruction of life, reputation and property which they occasion. I have known many cases in which *Rum*-sellers have knowingly and deliberately destroyed the lives of their victims by the daily administration of their poison, and I think every honest man will say that such persons were guilty of nothing less than wilful murder of the worst kind, viz., murder for the sake of gain.

Now, if our legislators are going to give us a really efficient license law—that is, one which will abolish all the evils of the traffic—let some of our clever men go to work and prepare a bill which will remedy as many of those evils as can be remedied without actual prohibition; and let that bill be laid before our members, and let us see what they will do with it. We shall thus find out whether they were sincere or not in what they did last winter.

I think there is no doubt that a great deal of good might be done by an honest license law. The difficulty has always been that we could never get one that was any better than a sham. I go in for prohibition as soon as we can get it, but in the meantime I have no objection to try any reasonable experiment, because I am thoroughly convinced that, if you abolish all the evils of the traffic, you will have nothing of it left (for which reason almost every man who would deliberately vote against the Prohibitory law would vote against any material amendment of the present system), and because I am satisfied that every experi-

ment that can be tried will only render the necessity for prohibition more and more apparent.

SENEX.

Clauses for Protection of Families.

Any dealer in intoxicating liquors who shall in person, or by his servant or agent, knowingly sell or give, or permit to be sold or given, any intoxicating liquor to any person, knowing that such person is addicted to the excessive use of intoxicating liquors, shall forfeit for every such offence a sum not less than five, nor more than ten pounds, at the discretion of the Justice before whom such offence shall be tried, which sum, if the person convicted shall be unlicensed, shall be in addition to any penalty that may be imposed for selling without license, and may be made the subject of a separate prosecution.

The husband, wife, parent, guardian, son, daughter, or creditor, of any person addicted to the excessive use of intoxicating liquors, or the overseers of the poor for any district wherein he resides or in which he has a legal settlement, may give notice to any dealer in intoxicating liquors that such person is addicted to their excessive use, and caution him not to sell or give to such person any intoxicating liquors; and, if such dealer shall thereafter knowingly sell or give any intoxicating liquors to such person, he shall, in addition to the penalty imposed by the last section, be liable to imprisonment for thirty days for the first offence, and, if he shall be again convicted for a subsequent offence, he shall be liable on each conviction to an additional imprisonment of thirty days for every time he has been before convicted. Any person convicted under this section shall be incompetent to hold a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Province, and any such license granted to him after such conviction, or held by him at the time, shall be utterly void, and if he shall thereafter sell any intoxicating liquors under color thereof he may be prosecuted for selling without license.

Clauses for Protection of Public Decency.

Any person found evidently intoxicated in the street, or in any public place, shall be forthwith arrested and committed to the nearest Gaol or Lock-up-house, and, upon conviction of having been intoxicated, he shall be detained in custody until he shall disclose by affidavit before a Justice of the Peace from whom he purchased or obtained liquors on the day on which he was found intoxicated, and such affidavit shall be evidence against the persons implicated thereby.

It shall be the imperative duty of any sheriff, deputy sheriff, or constable, upon being required to do so, to arrest, and any bystander or other person may arrest, without warrant, any person so being evidently intoxicated in any public street or place, and shall thereupon inform a Justice of the Peace of such arrest, who shall proceed against such person for drunkenness, and, if convicted, shall order his imprisonment as in the last clause mentioned. Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, or constable, refusing to arrest and convey to prison a person being evidently intoxicated in any public street or place, as hereinbefore mentioned, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of ten pounds.

Any peace officer conveying any intoxicated person to prison, as in the last clause mentioned, shall be entitled to his travelling fees, as in case of the service of a writ, out of the county funds.

Clauses for Protection of the Lord's-day.

Every person obtaining a license, under the chapter hereby amended, shall before receiving the same file an affidavit in writing, in the office of the Clerk of License, which shall be sworn before a Justice of the Peace, that he will not sell any intoxicating liquors on the Lord's-day, and, if he shall violate such his oath, he shall be liable to a prosecution for perjury in addition to any penalties for violation of the law.

Any unlicensed person, who shall sell intoxicating liquors on the Lord's-day, shall be liable to ten days imprisonment for every such offence, and shall be for ever after incapable of holding a license, under the chapter hereby amended, within this Province.

SYDNEY, C. B., Nov. 22nd, 1856.

MR. ABSTAINER,—

As I was a self constituted agent and correspondent of the *Athenæum*, during the last two or three years of its existence, I have taken the same office upon myself in your behalf, hoping my humble efforts may be acceptable, and in some degree tend to increase your circulation, and thereby promote the prosperity of the good cause which is so dear to me. I have not yet succeeded in getting subscribers for all the forty copies I ordered, but trust that before long I shall have to order a few more, for this vicinity, as you become better known and appreciated. I am pleased at the tone you have adopted and the stand you have taken, and hope you will not flinch one inch and that every movement may be forward. If the "Sons," and friends of Temperance generally, would only reason a little, on the present position and power of the press, methinks your subscription list would speedily be doubled, if not trebled—I would ask them, through your columns, if the cause of Temperance is so different from every other cause that it can dispense with the aid of the press? Where is the sect or party which does not enlist this agency?—Where the organization for any purpose, moral, political or religious, which can succeed without it? Apart then from the intrinsic value of the paper, I consider it the duty of every Temperance man or woman to be as active in disseminating Temperance periodicals and publications, as in any other department of the work. And, when we consider the mere trifle which you annually cost each subscriber, if you are not sustained, and that cordially and cheerfully, without continual begging on your part, the Temperance men of Nova Scotia will deserve to be ranked among the meanest and most miserly of earth. The cause of Temperance will not, and cannot prosper as it should, and as it would, if it have no organ—no recognized vehicle for communicating intelligence of the movements of both friends and foes, in enunciating regularly and at stated periods the great truths on which we build, and the great principles by which we are actuated—and making public the fearful tragedies which the rum traffic is enacting wherever it has a footing, the misery, indescribable and fearful, which it inflicts, not only upon its unhappy victims, but upon all connected with them by the ties of kindred and relationship.

It may be pleasing to the friends of the cause to learn that in Cape Breton the Order of the Sons is steadily progressing and growing stronger, shedding a happy influence all

around, and lessening in a good degree the evils of intemperance. The active, zealous efforts of a few devoted "Sons," during the last winter, are yet exerting a beneficial influence upon the "Order" and upon the community generally. The Divisions have in the aggregate more than doubled their numbers, and look forward to still greater triumphs during the coming winter.

During the present year we have had fearful examples of the effects of the "lawful traffic," which stands so high in the estimation of legislators, magistrates, and even Bishops, and which the Sydney paper thinks should be treated with great respect and courtesy by Temperance lecturers and speakers, accusing those who would hint that it was not all it ought to be of "inflated stump oratory," &c.

Last winter a man, whose name I have forgotten, left a rum hole at St Ann's in the evening. Next day he was found frozen to death a few rods from the place where he procured the deadly draught.

At Cow Bay a young man by the name of McQueen, the main support of a widowed mother and only sister, who had been away for several years earning money to supply their wants, returned home about Christmas. Not many days after he was invited to a frolic, and in common with the others partook of the social glass. At night he started for home, despite the advice of his companions, who saw his condition, and the next day his dead body was found not far off. Rum, probably purchased at a "lawful shop" in this town, had done its work, and hurried another victim unprepared into the presence of his Judge.

Last spring I attended the funeral of a young man of a liberal education, amiable disposition, and with good prospects of worldly fortune and happiness. Beloved by all who knew him, the centre of many bright hopes, he fell beneath the insidious power of the tyrant, and was cut off in the prime of life.

Last May the crew of a vessel at Baddeck went on board of a Saturday evening, all more or less under the influence of the maddening cup. One was still ashore. He obtained more rum at some of the "lawful" dens, and when he went on board a fight ensued. Next morning his body was discovered alongside the vessel, much bruised, and some of his clothing on the dock stained with blood. The captain and some of the crew were tried for murder, but no one knew how he came by his death, whether he jumped overboard or was thrown over, so they were acquitted.

On Saturday evening, Nov. 8th, Donald McMullin, a smart active young man, but a few months married, and by no means a habitual drunkard, but who "occasionally indulged"—was in town waiting the arrival of the mail, being a courier. He became intoxicated—was last seen asleep by the Market-house—was next seen on Sunday forenoon (in that long sleep from which he will not awaken till the Archangel's trumpet shall sound) in about two or three feet of water.—He has left parents, brothers, sisters, and a wife, to curse the "lawful shop" at which he procured the poison which destroyed his judgment and fired his brain, and finally led him to a watery tomb.

I could go on and fill sheet after sheet with the records of "Rum's doings," but for the present these must suffice. Neither your columns nor the patience of your readers would allow the description of one tithe of the fear-

ful results of the traffic, "accursed of God and odious to man," which force themselves upon the view in every community where it thrives under the protection of the law, and the sympathy of the press, the magistrates and the clergy.

The Temperance Committee of this county are sounding the note of preparation—drilling their forces, and soon intend to commence a vigorous attack upon the enemy. The success which crowned their efforts last winter encourages them to increased exertions during that just commencing, and I hope to be able to give you monthly a good account of their doings. Public meetings every week at the different localities, the distribution of tracts and pamphlets, lectures and speeches suited to the times and to the people, with the aid of music, &c., &c., are already announced, and on the 10th of December the war will be commenced and prosecuted with vigor, and with success. Let the "Sons" everywhere arm for the conflict, be zealous, be vigilant, be active, be persevering, be undaunted,—

"Follow the trail of the monster,
Track him through forest and glen,
Hunt him wherever he hideth,
Stab him to death in his den."

It is only a question of time. The war "fail" is not in our vocabulary, and never will be, and if every friend of Temperance does his duty it will be but a short time till the foe is conquered. Till

"All nations join the chorus,
Freedom to a ransomed world."

C. H. H.

To the Editor of the Abstainer

CHESTER, Dec. 3rd, 1856

DEAR SIR,—

As you ask for communications respecting the progress or declination of our cause from all quarters, I thought I would attempt to give you a short account of the state of things with us. Our Division has latterly remained apparently firm and is increasing in number four being now on the list for initiation. Our regular weekly meetings are well attended and the interest in them kept alive. When no other business is on hand we introduce questions for debate, which tends to keep up the interest in our meetings. But outside of ranks intemperance appears to prevail and increase all around us. In town we have ten licensed, and at least two unlicensed, liquor shops, where ardent spirits are retailed, at which are all well supplied with customer numbers of whom are the hitherto sober and industrious inhabitants of our backwoods settlements and surrounding isles and shores. Another of these hellish dens has recently been established at Chester Basin, five miles from town, which, from all accounts, outstrips any of those in town in its pernicious character and influence. Here, at the mouth of the road from Sherbrooke, the young men are invited in to refresh themselves after their fatiguing journey, and numbers of the teamsters on that road are through its influence fast becoming drunkards. Here also frequently Balls are carried on, young men and women are invited to a dance (encouraged to sometimes by the presence and participation of some from town from whom better things should be expected); liquor and cards are introduced, the innocent are led away by the vicious, and the night is spent in dissipation.

revelry and sin. The keeper of this sink of iniquity has no license for all this, but has hitherto pursued his nefarious work unmolested. So you see that with us appearances are gloomy and forbidding. In the midst of this it was proposed in our Division Room that we invite the clergy of our place to aid us in reviving the Old Total Abstinence Society, which for some years past has been suffered to remain in a state of dormant inactivity.—Letters to this effect were accordingly addressed to three of our clergy who were supposed to be favorable to our cause, but we were disappointed and somewhat discouraged at receiving from them all unfavorable replies. One is decidedly a cold water disciple, but pleads lack of time, inexperience, and unfavorable position at present, as excuses for not aiding us; another does not think the means proposed to be the best adapted "for opposing and counteracting the evils of Intemperance," points us to the Church of Christ, which "for the best of reasons may be considered a Temperance Society," and also to Associations of Christians, as the most effectual instrumentalities, but expresses wishes for our success, and proffers assistance, but not as a member. The third agrees with us in deploring the evils of Intemperance around us, and feels "that it is our duty to use those means, according to our best judgment, which we may hope will prove most effectual in rooting out this vice;" but he appears to think that the suppression of Intemperance alone is not a sufficient platform for a Society to start from. Thinks that Societies, such as Young Men's Christian Associations, which are established for the purpose of suppressing this and "every other vice," and aim at a "general reformation," are best calculated to effect the end proposed, and refers to the gospel rules, "Be temperate in all things," and "Let your moderation be known unto all men," as further reasons. He offers to deliver a Temperance lecture occasionally for us, but considers himself already a member of a Temperance Society by belonging to "The Chester Church of England Young Men's Christian Association," which has, I believe, in one of its rules a proviso that at every member must be moral and temperate. So receiving no cordial, warm-hearted assistance from either of the quarters applied to, we have to depend upon our own resources, and do what we can to stem the torrent which would fain overwhelm us. If we all stand firm, shoulder to shoulder, and united take advantage of all favorable circumstances as they may occur, we must advance. As we are at present we serve as a considerable check upon the enemy, for were Chester Division to go down Intemperance would stalk unchecked and riot through the whole township. May this never be the case. We expect much good will result from the Quarterly Session of the Grand Division to be held here next July, and hope there will be a large attendance of delegates. As long as so many of our clergy keep aloof, and advocate but general Temperance principles, and those faintly but in the pulpit, so long may we expect to find our advancement to be slow, and when they and our chief men come out boldly and unequivocally in favor of our cause, in season and out of season advocating it, then we will prosper.

With best wishes for the success of the *Abstainer*, hoping that its circulation may increase, when it must be effectual in doing a

good work, I remain, Mr Editor, in fraternal bonds,

A SON OF TEMPERANCE.

Intelligence.

We are indebted to the *Prohibitionist* for the following items:—

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.—A State Temperance convention was held at Keene, on the 16th of Oct. Its proceedings were interesting and important. Hon. Neal Dow was among the speakers. Reports were made as to the workings of the Prohibitory Law in the various towns and counties. The report from Stafford was among the most favorable. For several weeks the jail was empty. Now there are some liquor sellers in the same apartments formerly occupied by their victims. Resolutions were unanimously passed highly complimentary to the Rev. E. W. Jackson, for his zealous and efficient services as State Agent for the past two years. Also the following:—

Resolved, That we approve the New-Hampshire act for the suppression of Intemperance—believing its principles to be correct, and its main provisions salutary: and that we recommend its faithful enforcement.

Resolved, That no pains should be spared by Christians, ministers, and all good citizens, in the use of social means for the promotion of Temperance, and for the creation of a healthy public sentiment, without which the best laws must be comparatively useless.

At Portsmouth, the grand-jury found 12 bills of indictment against liquor, for violations of the Prohibitory Law. A letter from Rev. E. W. Jackson to the editor, says:—

"The law in New-Hampshire works like a charm. It will be an easy matter to close up the last grog-shop in the State. I doubt if any law has worked so well in any State."

MASSACHUSETTS.—Seventy-five liquor cases were lately tried at Taunton, without a single conviction. From Bristol county, we have a very different report. Peter Leonard, David Clapp and Eastis K. Clapp, were sentenced to pay from \$10 to \$100 fine, to from 20 to 60 days imprisonment, and to give bonds in the sums of from \$1,000 to \$2,000 not to violate the law for one year. While this legal suasion is being applied to the sinner, moral suasion, in the shape of meetings, speeches, and the Pledge, is being addressed with spirit and vigor, to the drinker.

OHIO.—Order reigned in Cincinnati on election day. Cause: in obedience to the Mayor's proclamation, the grog-shops were closed.

WISCONSIN.—Twice vetoed by Gov. Barstow, who was himself vetoed by the people, the Prohibitory Law has just met with another defeat. This third defeat was before the House of Assembly, which indefinitely postponed it, only three voting against the motion. This doubtless has some (probably political party) explanation, which has not reached us. We shall hear from Wisconsin again.

OREGON.—A writer in the *Oregon Argue*, (Oregon City) for Sept. 6th, urging Temperance conventions, reports the story which, with some modifications, may be told of almost every State:

"We know that, Oregon has been under

the mis-rule of Rum-ocracy for several years past. Politicians have gone up to our Legislatures, time and again, for a modified or prohibitory liquor law, but our wishes have been disregarded or treated with contempt. The curse of intemperance has been entailed upon us, and legalized Rum shops have been kept up in our midst, demoralizing our people and entailing misery and woe upon our population. The party in power have bowed to the Rum interest in Oregon, for political support at the ballot-box, and they have received that support, and thereby kept themselves in power. Oregon stands forth disgraced, at home and abroad, in her legislation and in her local policy.

Canada.—From a letter by Edward Stacey, Esq., Grand Scribe of the Sons of Temperance, Canada West, dated Kingston, 11th Oct:—

"We have little excitement or enthusiasm in Temperance at present. Still the work goes bravely forward; and the "Sons of Temperance," the life-guards of Temperance and Prohibition, maintain their ground nobly. I observe from the latest statistics of our Order, that we have gained a little in numbers the past year. We now number (as computed only from 234 Divisions that make returns) 10,301 members, good and true. Our friends in Britain are on the right track, and are progressing gloriously, and I trust that when the turmoil of your Presidential election is over, that your people will go to work with sober thoughts for Prohibition."

A correspondent of the *New-York Tribune*, writes of Canada. "The Temperance movement has a fine field for operations in Canada. The habit of drinking is universal, and exceeds anything I have seen anywhere in the States."

RUM AT THE BOTTOM OF "RUFFIANISM."—Says an old and devoted friend of Temperance, in Madison county, in a letter to the President of the New York State Temperance Society:—

I fear that our cause will suffer in the political campaign—though I see no unavoidable necessity for it, inasmuch as the liquor traffic lies at the bottom of all destruction of freedom of speech and of the upholding of ruffianism. It is played beyond all controversy, that the troubles in Kansas are produced by liquor, either directly, or indirectly. If we could cut off that traffic, men would become sober; and a death blow would be struck at these evils, both in the Territories and the States."

We agree with the watchful and intelligent writer of the above. Party leaders and party papers, seek to cure these evils by "carrying the next election." While the Temperance Reform strikes more at the root of the evil.—Yet see how the question of Temperance is universally ignored. Even the papers which heretofore have done much for the cause, have ceased to call attention now to the great disorganizer of social and public life—Rum.

Temperance men and papers professedly friendly to the cause, deem it their duty, for fear of "hurting the party," to refrain even from warning the young from the perils incident to the Presidential canvass. It is thought that the cause of Temperance was put back ten years by the orgies and debaucheries of the Hard Cider Campaign in 1840. The same cause will suffer tremendously from the excitement, the bar-room carousal, and

the free-drink briberies of the campaign of 1856. Even political papers have satirized the system of elections now going on. Each party exclaims to its adherents, "Assemble! Resolve! Guzzle!" Drink and be mad then; 'tis your country bids!"

[And so it will be, till Temperance men determine to run their own candidates, and to have nothing to do with any others.—Ed. *Abstainer*.

Morals and Health.

HOW TO BE LOVED.

Here is a secret worth knowing. William Wirt, in a letter to his daughter, thus insists upon the importance of the "small, sweet courtesies of life." Depend upon it, he is right. He says: "I want to tell you a secret. The way to make yourself pleasing to others, is to show that you care for them. The whole world is like the Miller at Mansfield,—who cared for nobody—no, not he—because nobody cared for him. And the whole world will serve you so, if you give them the same care. Let all persons, therefore, see that you do care for them, by showing them what Sterne so happily calls the small, sweet courtesies in which there is no parade, whose voice is too still to tease, and which manifest themselves by tender and affectionate looks and little kind acts of attention, giving others the preference in every little enjoyment at the table, in the field, walking, sitting, or standing.

STRANGE COINCIDENCE.

The first cause of a dream, or presentiment, is not often apparent, yet it is so often enough to show that we are capable of thus receiving impressions which can scarcely be defined otherwise than as spiritual. I may mention the following as a well authenticated case although I have not the details before me:—When Sir Evan Nepean was officially connected with the Home Office as a secretary, some persons under sentence of death were unexpectedly reprieved, and an order to that effect was made out to be forwarded instantly to the place of execution. On the following night, Sir Evan was unable to sleep, and was induced to leave his bed and take a walk in the Park in the hope of getting to sleep on his return. While up, he was led to go into his office; and there, to his great consternation, he saw the reprieve lying on the table. He immediately took the necessary measures, and, by great exertion, managed to get it to the county town just in time.

EVILS OF LATE RISING.

Lying long and late in bed impairs the health, generates diseases, and in the end destroys the lives of multitudes. It is an intemperance of the most pernicious kind, having nothing to recommend it; for to be asleep when we ought to be up, is to be dead for the time. This tyrannical habit attacks life in its essential powers; makes the blood forget its way, and creep lazily along the veins; relaxes the fibres, unstrings the nerves, evaporates the animal spirits, lulls the fancy and subdues and stupifies a man to such a degree, that he hath no appetite for anything; loathes labour, yawns for want of thought, trembles at the sight of a spider, and in the absence of that,

at the creatures of his own gloomy imagination.

AIR AND WATER.

A quart of water is daily passing through the skin of a sound person. It evaporates through the minute openings which covers the whole surface, and if these be plugged up, is compelled to travel through the kidneys, and gives rise to interal disorder. Ablution, therefore, if sound health is to be preserved, is a duty of the first importance. Pure air is also essential to health, and at night the free supply of it is of especial moment. Each sleeper draws into the chest, about fifteen times every minute, a certain quantity of the surrounding atmosphere, and returns it, after a change within the body, with a poison. One hundred and fifty grains by weight of this poisonous ingredient, are added to the air of a bedroom in one hour by a single sleeper, more than one thousand during the night. Unless there be a sufficient quantity of air to dilute this, or unless ventilation provide for a gradual removal of foul air, while fresh comes to take its place, health must seriously be undermined.

CLEANLINESS

There is a proverb in the Levant that "no Prince ever died of the plague," which means that the many resources which opulence affords are preventives against contagion. Accordingly, we find that in those Mahometan countries, where the plague rages with the greatest violence, but few of those who enjoy the first offices of the State are ever attacked with the distemper, although according to the precepts of Mahomet, they are obliged to appear in public at all times, and must comply with the general custom in giving their hands to be kissed indiscriminately by every Moor who comes to beg justice, or throw himself under their protection.

At a time when the plague at Algiers destroyed many thousands of the populace, who easily caught the infection from their negligence respecting their persons, but two out of three hundred officers, belonging to the Dey's household, were attacked with this mortal sickness.

Nor is cleanliness beneficial only in contagious disorder. Filth engenders corruption, taints the atmosphere, and predisposes the system to disease. And when an epidemic prevails, those persons who are particularly cleanly in their habits, are less likely to become indisposed, than those who pursue an opposite course.

The importance of well ventilated rooms cannot be too strongly urged upon the attendants of the sick. A free circulation of air is not only beneficial to persons laboring under severe attacks of illness, but is absolutely necessary for the preservation of the health of those who linger by the bedside of a diseased friend. It is said by medical men that there is no kind of malaria more pernicious and fatal in its effects, than the poisonous atmosphere of an unventilated chamber where a person is suffering from a violent attack of an acute disease. Here lies the mystery of the contagiousness of epidemics.

A celebrated English physician, (Dr Smith on Fever,) says that "the room of a fever patient, in a small apartment, in a populous city, with no circulation of fresh air, is perfectly analogous to a stagnant pool in Ethiopia, full of the bodies of dead locusts. Nature,

with her burning sun, her stifled and pent up wind, her stagnant and teeming marsh, manufactures plague on a large and fearful scale, poverty in her hut, covered with rags, surrounded with filth, striving with all her might to keep out the pure air, and to increase the heart, imitates nature but too successfully! the process and the product are the same—the only difference is the magnitude of the result. Penury and ignorance can thus at any time, and in any place, create a moral plague."

Varieties.

HINTS TO YOUNG FARMERS

Consider your calling the most elevated and the most important; but never be above it, nor be afraid of the frock and apron.

Put off no business which might and can be done to-day until to-morrow.

As soon as the spring opens and the frost is out of the ground, put your fence in order.

Plant no more ground than you can well manure, and can cultivate to advantage.

Never hire a man to do a piece of work which you can do yourself.

Every day has its appropriate duties, attend to them in succession.

Keep no more stock than you can possibly keep in good order, and that of the best kind.

Never run into debt without a reasonable probability of paying it at the time agreed.

Remember that economy and industry are two great pillars, the Jachim and Boas of the farmer's prosperity.

Never carry your pocket-book, as the desk or trunk is a more appropriate place. Keep them on file and in order, ready to be found when they are wanted.

Never buy anything at auction because the article is going cheap, unless you have a use for it.

Keep a place for your tools and your tools in their places.

Instead of spending a rainy day at the dram shops, as many do, to their ruin, repair whatever wants mending—post your books.

By driving your business before you, and not permitting your business to drive you, you will have opportunities to indulge in innocent diversion.

Never trust your money in the hands of that man who will put his own to hazard.

When interest or debt become due pay it at the time, whether your creditor wants it or not. Never ask him to "wait until next week," but pay it. Never insult him by saying "you don't want it." Punctuality is the key to every man's chest.

By constant temperance, habitual moderate exercise, and unaffected honesty, you will avoid the fees of the lawyer and the sheriff, gain a good report, and probably add to your present existence at least ten years of active life.

When a friend calls to see you, treat him with the utmost complacency, but if important business call your attention politely excuse yourself and he will excuse you.

Keep a memorandum book, enter all notes whether received or paid out, all expenses, and all circumstances of importance.

In December reckon and settle with all those with whom you have accounts, pay your storebills and mechanics, if not promptly done at the time, which is best of all.

And lastly, when the frost of winter shall

lay an embargo on your operations, and the chilling blasts of old Boreas shall storm your castle, let your castle, let your fireside be a paradise, and let the long evenings be consumed in social glee, the reading of choice agricultural or secular newspapers or, in pursuit of useful knowledge.

HORSES AND CARROTS.

For two months past I have fed my two horses upon carrots and hay. My horses are in constant service on the road; and under this treatment they usually come out at the end of the "pile" looking better than when they commenced. My dose is two quarts, morning, noon, and at night—for each horse; they have as much good, sweet English hay as they will eat, and cut, whether fed to them dry or otherwise. This latter I have always practised ever since I have had the management of horses; and I am satisfied that it is the cheapest and best way in which it can be given to the horse. There is no waste, and horses eat it better, and have more time to rest, which is quite an important consideration, where the horse is liable to be taken from the stable at any moment. I am satisfied there is no better way of feeding horses, nor is there any cheaper one—that I have ever tried—than the one mentioned. If there is, will not some person who knows please report? I always cut them quite fine before using. Carrots are most excellent for horses whose wind is any way affected—such as the heaves, &c. Those who have tried them for this purpose will, I think, agree with me in this; if not, just try the experiment and be satisfied. They are usually cheap, compared with other articles of food of equal nutritiousness. Last year I paid nine dollars per ton, this year eleven, and at the latter price I prefer them to oats—measure for measure.—*Saturday Evening Post.*

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

The exports of domestic butter and cheese from the United States are on a much larger scale than many, perhaps, are aware of. During the fiscal year of 1855, the shipments of butter amounted to 2,315,240 lbs., valued at \$418,723; and of cheese, 4,846,568 lbs., valued at \$514,034. Of the butter, the largest proportion, 461,015 lbs., was sent to British West Indies. To England there was exported 3,343,000 lbs. of Cheese—more than three-fourths of the entire shipment. Nearly 500,000 lbs. of butter were sent to China, and about 234,000 lbs. to Australia. Staange as it may seem, during the same fiscal year, 879,000 lbs. of butter were imported into the United States from British North America, Hamburg, Bremen, Holland, England and France for home consumption. Besides this, 605,211 lbs. were imported for exportation. The imports of foreign cheese were on a more extensive scale, the total amount being 1,526,942 lbs., valued at \$146,269. The Germans sent us 157,166 lbs. of their fragrant Limburger and other varieties, and the Dutch 220,021 lbs. France sent us the largest supply, viz: 1,002,140 lbs.

ARTIFICIAL ICE.

Mr E. Meriam has furnished the New York *Commercial Advertiser* with the following description of a machine for producing intense cold. Banks of the Cayhoga, O., Oct. 31, 1856.—This afternoon I have been engaged in examining a machine made here for pro-

during intense cold by artificial means. The machine after having worked for an hour brought down the mercury in the thermometer to the line of *twenty-four degrees below zero*, which was the lowest degree marked on the scale. I cut an apple and placed it on the outside of one of the metal pipes in which a current of ether was made to pass through a vacuum, and in a few moments it was frozen. This machine has been two years in being brought to its present state of great forwardness—it is worked by steam. I will produce a ton of ice at one operation. Clothing of persons coming to Quarantine in vessels can be frozen by this machine, and thus divested of the germs of pestilence.

OUR ENJOYMENTS.

Mr Ruskin, in the new volume of his *Modern Painters*, says:—"All real and wholesome enjoyments possible to man have been just as possible to him since first he was made of the earth as they are now; and they are possible to him chiefly in peace. To watch the corn grow and the blossom set, to draw hard breath over ploughshare and spade, to read, to think, to love, to hope, to pray,—these are the things to make man happy; they have always had the power of doing these,—they never will have power to do more."

LEARNING UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

It is related in a biography of Rev. Preserved Smith, of Rowe, Mass., that "his thirst for knowledge was so great that when in the fields at work, he would seize every leisure moment in exercising himself in arithmetic, by the use of a piece of chalk on a log, or a piece of bark. It was at that early period that he met with a Latin grammar. It greatly excited his curiosity, and he resolved that from that hour, if his life was spared him he would acquire the knowledge of the language of which that little elementary work was the key. Thus often it is that trivial and apparently unimportant incidents give a direction to the course and destiny of life. This little occurrence became the germ, which afterwards ripened into impulses and motives, which led to his acquiring a collegiate education, and becoming a minister of Christ.

BOYS' MANNERS.

It is too much the fashion among boys to scorn gentle loving manners, or leave their sisters to learn such ways, while they try to be what they call *men*. A boy who wishes to be a *true man*, "the noblest word of God," must begin while he is young to be honest and honorable, and, "do as he would be done by," for he will be the same person when he grows up that he is now, only stronger, larger, in mind and body, and better able to do good or evil. Let us by all means have "honor among boys."—*N. Y. Independent* N. E. W.

THE PRAIRIE DOG.

In Captain Marey's Exploration of the Red River of Louisiana, are given some interesting facts about that singular animal, the prairie dog. He says, "Passing through these dog villages, the little animals are seen in countless numbers, sitting at the entrance of their subterranean dwellings, presenting much the appearance of stumps of small trees; and so incessant is the clatter of their barking, that it requires but little effort of the imagination to fancy one's self surrounded by the busy hum of the city. The im-

mense number of animals in some of these towns, twenty-five miles in length, and supposing it to be as large in other directions, it would embrace an area of six hundred and twenty-five square miles, or eight hundred and ninety-six thousand acres. Estimating the holes at twenty yards apart, the usual distance, and each dwelling occupied by four or five dogs, the whole population of this tract would be, in round numbers, *forty millions of dogs!* The food of these animals consists principally of a coarse wiry grass, which grows in abundance on elevated plains, often many miles from any water, which does not seem necessary to their existence. About the last of October the prairie dog carefully closes all the passages to his habitation, and turns in for a long nap. He keeps housed till the warm days of spring, when he removes the obstructions in front of his door, and emerges full of life, fun and frolic. The rattlesnake is often an inmate of their dwellings, and sometimes preys on them when hungry

THE RULING PASSION.

When has a man got enough? Never, till he gets a little more. A very good story of old embargo times and the war of 1812, was told us (*New York Examiner*) the other day. Under the impulse of the removal of embargo, there was a sudden rise in the value of property, and such a demand for it that merchandise was sometimes carried off from vessels before the owners arrived at their places of business, and the parties taking it came in afterwards to say that they were at the owner's mercy, and they must pay what they chose to ask. A brig was lying at Boston harbor, which had come up from Plymouth just before the embargo was laid, fit for sea. The Plymouth owner thought it was a good time to sell the brig, and sent up his son for the purpose, telling him to demand eight thousand dollars for her, and not take less than six. John went to Boston, found how things stood, sold the brig in a moment, and hurried home, elated with his bargain. As he neared the house, he saw the old man marching up and down the piazza, and presently he rushed out to meet his son and hear the result of the sale. "Have you sold the brig, John?"—"Yes, father."—"For how much, John?"—"For ten thousand dollars!"—"Ten thousand dollars!" cried the old man, with staring eyes, at hearing a price more than double what the vessel cost. "Ten thousand dollars! I'll bet you've sold her to some swindler, who don't care what the price is, and never means to pay his notes." "Notes, did you say, father? Why, there are no notes in the case. I got the money and put it in the bank.—Draw and you will get it." The old gentleman's excitement was suddenly cooled, and as the ruling passion rose in its place, he said:—"I say, John, could'n't you have got a little more!"

THE SHADOW ON THE PILLOW.

The following is one of the most beautiful incidents connected with the Eastern War—
"A Highland soldier had his arm so severely wounded that it was about to be amputated, when Miss Nightingale requested the operation delayed, as she thought that under careful nursing the arm might be preserved. By her unremitting care this was accomplished, and the poor soldier, on being asked what he felt towards his preserver, said that the only vent to his feelings, was by kissing

her shadow when it fell on his pillow as she passed through the ward on her nightly visit."

INFLUENCE OF KINDNESS.

Kindness makes sunshine wherever it goes; it finds its way into hidden chambers of the heart, and brings forth golden treasures; harshness, on the contrary, seals them up for ever. Kindness makes the mother's lullaby sweeter than the song of the lark, the care-laden brows of the father and the man of business less severe in their expression. Kindness is the real law of life, the link that connects earth with heaven, the true philosopher's stone, for all it teaches it turns to virgin gold—the true gold wherewith we purchase contentment, peace, and love.

A LITTLE MORE WISDOM.

We must live and learn. Those of us who have made ourselves at all familiar with natural history, have taken to our bosoms the belief that flying insects make the humming noise in which they indulge by beating the air with their wings.—Bullon says so, and so does Goldsmith. So do later authorities. But we are all wrong it seems. A mosquito sings just as we do, it appears, although his vocal organs are not deposited in his throat, but along the sides of his body. It uses, and so do all similar insects, as well as mankind, a wind-pipe, the outlet to which is furnished with a vibrating valve like that employed on the accordion; but then a man has only one of those arrangements out of which to manufacture, by modulation, all the harmonious sounds of the "harp of a thousand strings," while most of the insects in question have as many as a dozen, through each of which, by the rapid movement of their wings in flying the air is made to rush with prodigious effect and energy. This will be new to most of us, we repeat; but we do not know that we have any reason to dispute its authenticity. Recent applications of the improved microscope to an investigation of these delicate phenomena, and assisted by the daguerreotype to fix the enlarged image on a plate for repeated observation, have made tolerably certain the fact in question. So it turns out, after all, that the locust whom we love to hear so much in the trees, and whom cruel boys tie to a string to make him furnish them with a tune, is actually a tiny musician, and goes about with a full orchestra of wind instruments under his wing to serenade his love, hymn the praise of his creator, and supply us with gratuitous entertainment.

IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO DO, DO IT.

There is no lesson which people—men, women and children—have more need to learn than this,—do what they have to do at once. Young people cannot calculate the benefit of it, while the want of it will hang upon them all their lives long, like an incubus. Our advice to boys and girls always is, if they have but a smart hour's work to do, do it in an hour, and not sozzle over it all day. In our business, if we had a boy who must be lazy, we should urge him, by all means, to work while he did work, and make a business of it; and then if he must stop, and make a business of that too. If a boy is allowed, or allows himself, to play the lobbolly through the day, he is just as sure to be a drone as long as he lives, as he is sure to live. Indolent habits in youth are never overcome in manhood. The world is brim full of illustra-

tions of the truth of this. The same rule applies equally to girls. The girl who does housework, and we hope there are some—allows herself all the forenoon to poke over the breakfast dishes, and finds scanty time to get her dinner, is just as sure to make a miserable slattern of a housekeeper as she is to be a housekeeper at all; and we caution young men against the girls who keep their breakfast dishes round till noon. The only way is, if you have anything to do, do it.

THE VALUE OF DIFFICULTIES.—The greater the difficulty the more glory is there in surmounting it. Skilful pilots gain their reputation from storms and tempests.

THE POLE STAR OF YOUTH.—The young should never hear any language but this—You have your own way to make, and it depends upon your own exertions whether you starve or not.

THE FUTURE.—It has been beautifully said, that "the veil which covers the face of futurity is woven by the hand of mercy."

A POWERFUL EXCUSE.—An attorney, on being called to account for having acted unprofessionally in taking less than the usual fees from his client, pleaded that he had taken all the man had; he was thereupon honourably acquitted.

ADHERE TO TRUTH.—One of the most fatal temptations to the weak is a slight deviation from the exact truth for the sake of apparent good.

Every man who lives beyond his own means must of course live, in part, on the means of others; and this is fraud, whatever the offender may call it.

Men's happiness springs mainly from moderate troubles, which afford the mind a healthy stimulus, and are followed by a reaction which produces a cheerful flow of spirits.

Industry is essentially social. No man can improve either himself or his neighbours without neighbourly help, and to better the world is to set the world to work together.

OFFICIAL.

Halifax, N.S., Dec. 15th, 1856.

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

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

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

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

PATRICK MONAGHAN,
Grand Scribe.

The Grand Scribe would direct the attention of Divisions to several errors in Journal of Annual Session of G. D., viz:

Page 24, ninth line from bottom, for "to take up," read "to be taken up."

Page 27, last line, for "non-beneficiary" read "non-beneficiary."

Page 29, eighth line from bottom, for "dismissed" read "discussed."

Page 32, for "22nd January" read "28th January."

Page 34, after G. T.—John A. Bell, for "P. W." read "W. P."

PATRICK MONAGHAN, G. S.

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

R. G. Freeman, Milton, Q. Co., 33,	£4	0	0
Southampton Division, 20, on acct.	2	0	0
Columbia do., 10,	1	5	0
Flowing Fountain do., 15,	1	15	0
J. K. Blair, Truro, 24, on acct.	1	10	0
John Whitman, Beal's Mountn., 10,	1	5	0
Victoria Division, 10,	1	5	0
Charles Bill, Liverpool, 50, on acct.	2	0	0
John Locke, Ragged Islands, 13,	1	12	6
John McKenzie, Esq., Durham, 10,			
on acct.	10	0	0
Coldstream Club, T. W., 12,	1	10	0
E. T. Harvie, Newport, 14,	1	15	0
Willow Division, 25,	3	2	6
C. H. Harrington, Sydney, C. B.,			
30, on acct.	3	0	0
J. W. Dauphency, Lunenburg, 23,	2	17	6
H. B. Mitchell, Chester, 3 additnl.	7	6	
Amora Division, Cornwallis, 30,	3	15	0
Gough Club T. W., New Glasgow,	2	0	0
Father Mathew Division, Lower			
Stowiacke,	5	0	
Single subscriptions,	15	0	
	£36	10	0

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

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

THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA,

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

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

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

THE ABSTAINER.

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

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