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Canada Temperance Advocate.

No. 11.

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1840.

VOL. V.

MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 25, 1840.

The fourth Anniversary of the Montreal Temperance Society was held this evening in the Congregational Chapel. In the absence of the President, JACOB DEWITT, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents, was called to the chair. After prayer by the Rev. H. O. CROFTS, the Secretary read the Report (hereto appended), when the following Resolutions were unanimously passed.

Moved by Rev. H. O. CROFTS, seconded by J. R. ORR, Esq.

1. Resolved.—That the Report now read be accepted and printed under the direction of the Committee.

Moved by HOTES LLOYD, Esq., seconded by Mr. J. C. BECKET.

2. Resolved.—That this meeting, under the conviction of the great necessity of renewed and increased exertion to save our fellow-men from the evils of intemperance, do resolve to leave no lawful means untried by which they can promote the objects of this Society.

Moved by Rev. JAMES CAIRNS, seconded by Mr. A. CAMERON.

3. Resolved.—That we feel grateful for, and on this occasion would publicly acknowledge the great condescension of Almighty God in crowning our labours during the past year with such a measure of success, as to strengthen the conviction that this cause is of God, and must continue to prosper; and we humbly pray for the Divine blessing upon us and our cause.

Moved by Mr. F. M. SWANER, seconded by Mr. W. GUNN.

4. Resolved.—That the following persons be the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| JOHN DOUGALL, Esq., | President. |
| REV. WILLIAM TAYLOR, | } Vice-Presidents. |
| JACOB DE WITT, Esq., | |
| JOHN E. MILLS, Esq., | |
| JAMES K. ORR, Esq., | Treasurer. |
| JAMES COURT, Esq., | Secretary. |

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE, WITH POWER TO ADD TO THEIR NUMBER.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Rev. H. O. Crofts. | Messrs. J. C. Becket. |
| Messrs. Joseph Fraser. | R. D. Wadsworth. |
| William Greig. | Henry Lyman. |
| John M'Watters. | Samuel Mathewson. |
| James Milne. | George Robson. |
| Robert Morton. | Alfred Savage. |
| William Morton. | William M'Master. |
| Richard Yates. | |

The Chairman stated that owing to the non-arrival of two Ministers from the country on account of the badness of the roads, one resolution was not proposed to the meeting; but gave notice that in a few weeks another public meeting would be held, when the President, JOHN DOUGALL, Esq., and other gentlemen, would address the meeting. He also intimated that the Society's books were ready for any person wishing to become members—(twenty signed after the meeting closed.) At the close of the proceedings, a collection was taken up amounting to £6 1 3; and the meeting separated after prayer, by the Rev. JAMES CAIRNS.

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MONTREAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The cause of Temperance, identified as it is with the design of freeing the world from the influence and effects of intoxicating

drink, is a theme of sublime import. The evils, to be remedied, and the good to be secured, by the cause, are in magnitude beyond the grasp of human calculation. This enterprise is in an emphatic sense, *moral*. It has to contend with and reform what is false in principle, sordid in interest, and depraved in habit. If it exists and flourishes, it must be sustained by a continued and constantly accumulating power of individual and associated influence. In such a cause, names, expressions of approbation and of good wishes unaccompanied with appropriate, determined and persevering effort, are of no avail. To effect that moral renovation of the world, so much desired by the wise and philanthropic of our day and the subject of fervent prayer by Christians of every name, there must be sacrifice of time and labour on the part of some, and a decided and active co-operation on the part of all who are the friends of temperance.

Your Committee in presenting their annual Report have to congratulate the members of this Society on the disappearance of civil commotion and disturbances, of which it was the painful duty of the Committee of the two former years to lament, and do greatly rejoice at the present peaceful state of the community at large, especially on account of the important bearing which the return of peace has upon the cause of Temperance, which be it remembered is the handmaid and sister of Peace.

Your Committee feel grateful for the success which has attended the efforts of Temperance Societies during the past year. The changes effected are wonderful and happy. The monster has been banished from thousands of dwellings. Numbers have burst the chains of a temperate allegiance, pledged themselves to total abstinence, and some, in the spirit of benevolence, have sacrificed gain to duty, and renounced the trade. As regards this Society it is pleasing to know that the principle of total abstinence is cherished by all its members with a growing attachment, and is extending its influence throughout the land—so that from all parts reports reach us stating the adoption of this principle in preference to the former, and the happy results consequent thereupon: and while we wield no weapon but the armour of light, and employ no instrumentality but the exhibition of truth, the persuasion of argument, and the force of example, we shall go forward from conquering unto final conquest.

The plan at present followed of receiving members first as probationers, and secondly on the recommendation of a member of Committee, is found to be the more excellent way, as by this means they are established in their purposes and views before their admission: 81 have been added during the past year, all of whom continue steadfast to the present, as far as is known to your Committee. It cannot be satisfactorily stated the number of members in good standing now belonging to this Society, owing to the absence of the Secretary, James Court Esq., but it may be safely said that its numerical strength is fast increasing.

Your Agent continued his labours to the 1st instant, when the term of his engagement closed. From his efforts this Society has derived great advantage; by his instrumentality about 50 have signed the pledge, 45 of whom have been admitted as members of the Society. Some of these were moderate drinkers, but a great many were immoderate—most of whom are now connected with religious societies, and experience not only a moral change in their habits, but a spiritual change in their hearts. Your Committee take this opportunity of bearing testimony to the zeal and unwearied exertions of Mr. WM. MORTON while acting in the capacity of Agent, and their entire satisfaction with his conduct while in their employ.

Your Committee, acting upon the belief expressed in the last Annual Report relative to an increased circulation of the Temperance

Advocate, reduced the price one half. Its circulation is now about 3000 copies monthly—a great number of these are given gratis, with a view to interest Ministers of religion and School Teachers in the cause of Temperance. Its subscribers are increasing very rapidly, and it is hoped that before long the receipts will be equal to the disbursements, at present it is not so. A great variety of information and useful instruction has been disseminated through this channel, as well as by the circulation of thousands of Temperance tracts and other publications, in most instances gratuitously. With regard to future supplies of temperance publications from Great Britain, the Committee have accepted the offer of the Rev. W. Taylor and Secretary, and have authorized them to purchase a fresh supply to arrive early in the spring. The Committee would here recommend members to an increased liberality, as hitherto only a few have borne the heavy expenses resulting from the increased gratuitous circulation of the *Advocate* and other publications.

There have been six Public Meetings during the year, commencing with the last Annual Meeting, all well attended; especially that held in the American Presbyterian Church in October last. Of their utility the Committee have no doubt, and the frequency of their recurrence has only been interrupted from the want of talented persons to interest the public: however, it is confidently hoped that in the ensuing year these meetings will be both frequent and entertaining.

The Committee have still to regret the absence of a *Coffee Room* or *Inn* on total abstinence principles in this large and flourishing City. The inconvenience experienced by many travellers on this account is very great, yet notwithstanding this, and the encouragement held out by the Committee for commencing such an establishment, they repeat, they are sorry as yet no opportunity has been afforded them of fulfilling their engagements.

The *Treasurer's Account* shows a balance in his hands of £5 3s. 6d. As a set off against this, however, the sum of £19 4s. 6d. has been advanced for the *Temperance Advocate*, so that the Society is in debt to the amount of £14 1s. 0d. The Agent has been employed in collecting the Annual Subscriptions, which has to a considerable extent met the deficiencies of last year. Still the outlay of the Society is by no means borne equally by its members. The Committee trust that this passing remark will be sufficient to awaken a spirit of liberality generally.

The Committee would enjoin on every member the duty of employing all proper means to induce others to connect themselves with this Society. No one should be satisfied with merely pledging himself to total abstinence. He should become an agent for the cause of temperance, an active promoter of it. And he should especially seek to influence others by the same arguments which convinced himself, that it was his duty to unite with a temperance society. By such activity and faithfulness on the part of the members, their number would be doubled in less than a year. A specific rule cannot be laid down; yet we know that individual opinion gives existence and character to public opinion. On topics connected with this cause, every member should speak, whenever and wherever opportunity may offer;—in the family, the counting house, the work shop, the hotel, the steam-boat or the stage coach. There should be no reserve through shame, no shrinking back through fear; but a mild, yet bold speaking out of what is known to be the truth. The circulation and reading of papers; reports and addresses designed to further the cause, of which a vast number and of great variety are now before the world, is another means of individual effort. "In this cause, knowledge is power; it dispels ignorance, disarms prejudice, awakens conscience, and thus moves to action." He who does not read, will rarely think; and he who does not think will never feel. Light must shine and shine constantly, or darkness will envelop the understanding and becloud the reason of our fellow-men. Individuals may do much by discouraging in all consistent modes, the sale and use of intoxicating drink. Teetotalers can make no compromise. Whatever tends to qualify or counteract their principle, they must discountenance. Interest, if need be, must be sacrificed, and principle sustained. Temperance dealers, mechanics and labourers, ought to be encouraged. We must guard against the guilt and inconsistency of upholding in one form, what we seek to destroy in another, lest we thoughtlessly be instrumental in extending and perpetuating the burning curse of intemperance.

The Committee recognize the St. James's Street Temperance Association as a useful auxiliary in this good cause. During the past year this association has distributed 1020 copies of the *Advocate*, and also obtained several signatures to the Tee-total pledge.

Your Committee feel bound to acknowledge the increasing co-operation of Ministers of religion throughout this, but especially in the Upper Province. The Committee are aware that ministers are pressed with a variety of objects, and that they have important plans of their own for their labors, but still cannot but regret that in some instances they have omitted precious opportunities of lending a helping hand to the great enterprise of temperance.

In conclusion, the Committee would return thanks to Almighty God for the success which has attended the efforts of your Society in the past year, and they now call on all the friends of this good cause, to renew and increase their exertions in this great work. Suitable means, if faithfully employed for a few more years, will result in the banishment of intemperance from our land, and the complete triumph of Total Abstinence.

R. D. WADSWORTH, *Sec. pro. tem.*

Montreal Feb. 25, 1840.

The Montreal Temperance Society in Account Current with James R. Orr, Treasurer.

1840.		Dr.
Jan. 31.—To paid City Agent's Salary for one year	£55 0 0	
" " Expenses of Public Meetings, Advertising, &c.	4 12 2	
" " for Publications	6 4 6	
" To Balance due by Treasurer	5 3 6	
		£71 0 9
1839.		Cr.
Feb. 5.—By received Collection at Annual Meeting	£7 6 11	
May 30.—By " Rent of Rooms	5 0 0	
Oct. 22.—By " Collection at Public Meeting	3 14 4	
1840.		
Jan. 31.—By " Donations and Subscriptions this year	£5 19 31	
" " By " Publications Sold	2 19 0	
		£71 0 9
" By Balance brought down	£5 3 6	
	B. E. JAMES R. ORR, <i>Treasurer.</i>	
	Examined and found correct. R. D. WADSWORTH.	
	J. C. BECKET.	

Montreal, January 31, 1840.

IRELAND.

The following description of the reception of Rev. Mr. Mathew, at Limerick, is from the *Limerick Chronicle* of Dec. 4.

Saturday evening the very Rev. Theobald Mathew, O. S. D., arrived here. On Sunday he advocated the cause of the poor female children of the Presentation Poor School, at which meeting £160 were collected for this charity. On Monday morning crowds of peasantry from Clare, Cork, Kerry, Tipperary, and Waterford, were in town. The far west, including Galway and Mayo, had sent up reinforcements from every parish to meet the apostle of temperance. Before daylight the habitation of Rev. Mr. Mathew was besieged by anxious crowds, who left no passage whatever. The multitude broke in the hall door of the house, and rushed up stairs, impelled by the physical force of the crowds behind. The friends of Rev. Mr. Mathew found it impossible, in such alarming circumstances, that he could attempt to use his influence, by imposing a pledge, which people in such a state of excitement and disorder were unfitted to receive. A covered cab was procured, in which the Rev. Gentleman, with difficulty, drove to the county court house, preceded, surrounded, and followed by thousands of people. For about two hours he remained here, endeavouring to administer the pledge of temperance to such as could force their passage inside the iron balustrades of the court house, where the Rev. Mr. Mathew, uncovered, stood before the recipient, who knelt to him, and accepted the pledge of total abstinence. The crowds outside now became so eager for admittance that they scaled the strong iron paling which surrounds the area of the court, many absolutely walking upon heads and shoulders, and the pressure was so excessive that several yards of the balustrade fell into the river. The danger had now become so imminent that the mayor sent for the military, and promptly responding to the call, Lt. Col. Mansel,

hastened to the scene, with a troop of the Scots Greys, and a division of the 42d Highlanders, whose appearance restored some order in the crowds. The Rev. Mr. Mathew soon after took a cab, crowds throwing themselves on their knees before him, and was conveyed to the corn market, followed by the same anxious multitude, running in hundreds through the streets, to avail themselves of the benediction of the apostle of temperance. Having thus disposed of some thousands during the day, he took a light dinner, and repaired to the steamboat quay, where he administered the pledge to between 700 and 800 persons, who had arrived by the steamers from Kerry and Clare. At night, thousands of persons were obliged to remain in the open air, all the small lodging houses being crowded. The commercial building-room was thrown open by the committee to a great number of the strangers, who there received coffee from Mr. H. N. Seymour, (gratis;) and in the rooms of the St. Mary Temperance Society, 700 persons found an asylum for two nights, while the other parochial societies acted with equal kindness.

At half-past six next morning, the Rev. Mr. Mathew recommenced the good work, 100 or 200 persons at a time being admitted by a passage from one street, and departing by another. From exposure to the air for so many hours, his hat off, he Rev. Gentleman's voice had failed so, that the clergyman near him had to call aloud the words of the pledge, which the people repeated, while on bended knees in the street. The words of this imposing part of the ceremonial, as we collect them were—"I promise, while I belong to the *Teetotal Abstinence Society*, to abstain from all kinds of intoxicating drink, unless used medically; and that I will discountenance by advice and example the causes of intemperance in others." The Rev. gentleman then adding, "God bless you, and enable you to keep the promise you have taken."

It was found utterly impossible to take the number, much less the names of the multitudes which had accepted the pledge. The duty was abandoned as hopeless when 17,000 were entered, but the members were subsequently informed, that on giving their names to the Parish Priest on their return home, medals and cards would be transmitted from Cork, to each pastor for their use. No money was demanded or received from any person. Upwards of 50,000 persons were added to the stated population of Limerick during these two days.

WATERFORD.—Father Mathew arrived here on Tuesday evening, and was immediately waited upon by the Mayor. On Wednesday he commenced his labours, and continued through Thursday, administering the pledge to thousands upon thousands. After pledging about 20,000, the reverend gentleman, on being asked if he was not tired, replied—"I feel no fatigue in the world. Oh! how rejoiced I am to see them pour in in this way." Alderman Ponle, who was present remarked,—"Talk of the victories of the Duke of Wellington! they are nothing to those of Mr. Mathew." It was observed, with pleasure, that females out-numbered males by about 25 per cent. This has not been the fact elsewhere. The virtuous, as well as the most debased and forlorn of the community, have taken the pledge.

CLONMEL.—At this place, not only the city officers, but the different religious denominations assisted Father Mathew. Presbyterians and Quakers eagerly came forward. About 4000 persons came into the city, headed by a band of music; and having taken the pledge, resumed their ranks, and marched home. From 12,000 to 15,000 took the pledge before twelve o'clock.

THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY WANTED.—We learn from the *Flemmingsburgh Kentuckian* that a short time back a Mr. Hampson, of Madon county, an habitual drunkard, hung his own son a boy about twelve years of age, for accidentally breaking a jug of rum!

Governor Duncan of Illinois recently gave \$400 to support the Temperance cause, and presented a lot in Jacksonville to the mechanics of the town, on which to erect a building.

SHAMEFUL TRAFFIC.—Several publicans in the town of St. Heller, Jersey, have lately adopted the plan of selling half-penny glasses of liquor! By this abominable traffic, children are enabled to procure intoxicating spirits, which it is needless to say ripen them for every species of vice.

IMPURE WATER.—Impure water is a bad drink, but putting brandy in it, makes it ten times worse.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Several Letters and Communications have been received, but for want of room are necessarily deferred until our next number. We would recommend our Correspondents to study conciseness in their communications, as our columns are small. Reports from the Prince Edward Total Abstinence Society, the Sidney T. A. Society, and the Lanark T. A. Society. Letters from the Rev. James Currie, from "A Member" of the Smithtown T. A. Society, and another giving an account of the Kemptville Society. Also, one dated London, U. C. from John Dougall, Esq.; and another from "A Member" of the Anherstburg Society. The Address accompanying the Report from Sidney is too long for insertion in our columns. We would recommend the Society to publish it in pamphlet form. "A Teetotaller" will receive an early insertion.

CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

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

MONTREAL, MARCH, 1840.

OUR ARGUMENTS ARE FACTS.—It is matter of astonishment to some, how our Society can pretend to claim a place among the benevolent associations of the day. They say our principles and arguments are so much opposed to sociality and the good of man, that they can perceive no foundation for the demand we make to be admitted to the respect and standing of such associations.

But every day increases our wonder, that discerning men have not been able to form more correct views of our Society and its objects. We think it not strange that the ignorant and the vicious oppose the reformation which we advocate. About such opposition, there hangs little mystery. We might wonder, did they not oppose us. For them to cry out against our Society and its objects, is quite in keeping with their character. We anticipated their views of our efforts from the first. When we commenced our labours, we counted the resistance of the intemperate, and the abuse of the ignorant, as part of the cost. We set that down as something not to be escaped, but to be borne with patience, hoping that in due time it would disappear as information became general, and our motives were better understood. But opposition from intelligent and discerning men we did not anticipate. It has taken us by surprise. We confess there is mystery about such opposition. Why they should check our Society, and resist publicly or privately the reformation, that is now going on in respect to intemperance, we cannot imagine. We are unwilling to impute to them any base motives in this matter. We grant them what we claim for ourselves—sincerity. But solemn consideration flashes upon our minds the conviction, that they are either ignorant, and know no better, or are deliberately unwilling to acknowledge that FACTS, plain, undeniable, abounding, melancholy facts, are our ARGUMENTS. They seem not to perceive that sober and deplorable realities constitute the foundation of all our reasoning. But we have never claimed public confidence nor public favour without at the same instant presenting proof that such favour and confidence were due. We have never solicited the influence of an individual, nor the exercise of his talents in this cause, without basing every word of our argument on the mischief visible, which intoxicating liquor produces. That intelligent men can resist and oppose us, under these circumstances, is certainly remarkable. They form and support Bible Societies and Missionary Societies; but on what ground? On the ground that there is a destitution of the Bible and a necessity for the gospel among those who have not heard it. Consistency binds them then to associate themselves against intemperance, on total abstinence principles; for intemperance cannot be suppressed on any other principles; and that vice, single-handed, will forever baffle the object of Bible and Missionary Societies, and render their efforts, in thousands of instances, utterly useless and unavailing. At all events, the palpable ravages of alcoholic beverages; the wretchedness, personal and public, which they produce; the poverty, crime, and death which unceasingly proceed from them, should not be forgotten. Thinking men, who circulate the Bible, and support missions to the heathen, and build hospitals for the sick, should

neither disregard the facts to which our Society appeals, as the reason of its efforts, nor oppose, in the slightest degree, a cause so triumphantly able to show reason why it exists, and in every respect so deserving of the best wishes and active co-operation of every good man.

A FARMER'S EVIDENCE.—To call the attention of our readers to an illustration of what we have just said, we here present them, with the testimony of a farmer. He is willing to submit his statement to the strictest scrutiny. He says :

READ IT.

"In the district in which I live, there are six taverns: four licensed, two unlicensed. They are on a line of road five miles in length. In the rear of this road, on one side, at the distance of a mile, there are two other taverns. A mile off, on another side, there is one. Two miles from which, two distillers of whiskey carry on their trade briskly.

Within these five miles, there are fifteen confirmed drunkards, heads of families. Among them two shoemakers, four farmers, three tavern-keepers, one miller, one cooper, one carpenter; these are habitually at their cups; and whenever they are from home, they return heavily intoxicated. Three of the fifteen are mothers; twelve are fathers. Some of them have very numerous families. In addition to these fifteen habitual drunkards, there is a number which I cannot at present estimate, who drink in moderation. These I do not class among the *drunkards*, though they will soon class themselves amongst them, if total abstinence do not prevent."

In view of the above facts, what conclusion must be formed with respect to the necessity of our Society? That such an Association is not needed? That it is unworthy of the attention and influence of good men? That it should be disbanded? That every mouth should be shut respecting intoxicating drink? That nothing should be attempted to save the drunkard from poverty, ignominy, disease, and death, temporal and eternal? And nothing to prevent those who are beginning to be drunkards from perishing as such before our eyes, and cursing generations innumerable by their pernicious and destructive example?

If reasoning men—men of sound heads and philanthropic hearts—are capable of drawing such conclusions from such facts, then reason is not a blessing, but a curse; and every effort to do good, in this sinful and suffering world, should from this moment be abandoned; ignorance allowed to remain unenlightened, and vice to reign in undisturbed and ruinous supremacy over all the families of fallen man.

Good News! Good News!!—The example of Rev. Mr. Mathew in Ireland, has influenced the Catholic clergy of this city and New York to the formation of temperance associations. In New York, the Rev. Felix Varela, is President; and in this city Rev. Patrick Phelan was chosen President; R. J. Begly, Esq., Vice-President; Peter Devins, Esq., Treasurer; Mr. J. Cassidy, Secretary, and Thomas Hewitt, Assistant Secretary.

The officers of the association were appointed a committee to prepare rules, to be submitted to a meeting to be held next Sunday.

In our next number, we hope to be able to give further information respecting these societies.

We would invite attention to the account of the Annual Meeting of the Montreal Temperance Society, to be found on first page. The report will well repay perusal.—To those who are hesitating between the teetotal and the moderate pledge, the arguments to be found in the report of the Prescott Society may be of some service.

A general council of Indian chiefs representing twelve settlements, was held at the River Credit, U. C., on the 16th January. Their address to his Excellency the Governor General is very touching; the simple expression of the feelings and desires of the heart of the "red man." The Governor's reply is in excellent taste, and shows him to be possessed of a kind heart, and capable of estimating the value of the progress of religion and morality. We insert below that part of the address and answer which relates to the effect of strong drink or "*firewaters*," upon the Indians.

FATHER,—For many years we have been made very poor on account of the introduction of the fire-waters, and other evils amongst us, which have killed and ruined many of our fathers.

FATHER,—About sixteen years ago the words of the Great Spirit were preached to us by the Methodists; we opened our ears, and the Good Spirit opened our hearts to receive the Gospel, and we are now happy to inform your Excellency that great changes have since taken place amongst our people. We have forsaken our old ways and evil habits, and are now trying to live like good christians and good farmers. We have chapels, schools, houses, and fields; these things make our hearts very glad."

The Governor General's reply.

MY CHILDREN,—It gives me great pleasure to learn that the word of the Great Spirit which has been preached to you; has already taught you to shun your enemy the firewaters.

You do right to cherish those good men who have settled among you to bring you a knowledge of that Great Being whom we all adore, and to whom the red man is no less dear than the white. Following their lessons you cannot fail to attain to happiness, and to become good subjects of your great Mother the Queen."

A FACT.—A man was carrying a bottle of whiskey below his coat, behind his back, in order to keep those who met him from knowing what he had. His foot slipped, and he fell backward upon the bottle, making a terrible wound in his back. The doctor despaired of his recovery for some time, and for two months the unfortunate man was unable to walk.—*Letter from U. C.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—You will no doubt be surprised, when I state to you a circumstance which has occurred of late in the Wesleyan Methodist Society in this city. It appeared expedient to a few (and I think I may say to the greater part of the Society) to do something to endeavour to have Mr. Wesley's rule respecting the "buying, selling, or using ardent spirits, unless in cases of *extreme necessity*," enforced in the Society, believing it to be Scriptural. A meeting was held on the 22d instant for that purpose. A few resolutions were moved in accordance with the object of the meeting; and to these resolutions, amendments subversive of their design were proposed by some of the Leaders in the Society, who came there for the purpose of opposing the meeting. The amendments were put to the meeting, and lost. The resolutions were then put, and carried.

I was one who took a part in that meeting, being favourable to the object it had in view, relative to enforcing the above rule in the Society. Sir, strange as it may appear, I was, on last Wednesday evening, arraigned before a Leader's Meeting, and my conduct and motives strongly condemned. For taking any part in that meeting. It was also stated, that what I had done was calculated to jeopardise the peace and unity of the Society. This they have recorded against me. Now, Sir, whether the peace and unity of a Society hangs on allowing the existence of an awful evil among them—one that is ruining the souls and bodies of thousands, I leave for a candid public to judge.

The matter has gone further, Sir; they have passed a resolution that "No Leader shall introduce the Temperance question into the Society as a church question." Is this liberty of conscience? Would it not be much more consistent to expunge Mr. Wesley's rule altogether?

I have been connected with the Methodist Society for more than thirty years, and have always found them to raise their voice against the drunkard; but the consequence appears to be awful to say a word against the *drunkard-maker*. This appears to me to be at variance with their principles as Methodists. On this ground I stand; and for supporting my principles, a vote of censure has been passed against me. More could be said on the subject; but, unwilling to trouble you farther at present, I am, Sir, your's, &c.

SAMUEL MATHEWSON.

Montreal, Feb. 29, 1840.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—Most of your readers must have heard of the lamentable disaster of the steamboat *Lexington*, which was recently destroyed by fire in the waters of Long Island Sound, when upwards of one hundred souls were hurried into another world.

They may have heard also that one TERRELL, Master of a sloop, was said to have been so near the burning vessel that he could have rescued the passengers, but that he refused to do so, lest he should lose the advantage of the tide! This man is said to have vindicated himself, however, from the charge of inhumanity, but before he did so, there was one general burst of indignation in the community at his conduct. It was thought, and thought truly, that a man who could be so inhuman, merited the scorn of the world.

But what will be our surprise when we learn that Capt. TERRELL is outdone in Canada? Yet so it is. The dram-seller is the man. Were all true which has been said of Capt. T., the dram-seller deserves the palm of inhumanity.

This may be made to appear in the following PARALLEL.

I. Capt. T. (if he was really guilty of what has been alleged against him) neglected to do right. He did not set the boat on fire, nor push men into the water. But the dram-seller hangs out his sign, places his bottles in his window, and invites men to ruin. Not content with this, he puts a painting on his sign which reminds men of home, that so they may be induced to drink to the honor of their native land. (It is very great honor, no doubt, to one's country to become intoxicated for its sake. Drinking to the health of a friend, or to the honor of a country, is no doubt, a great preservative of health in the one case, and a most illustrious honor in the other.) The dram-seller then sets the boat on fire, and literally pushes his victim into the water, by closing his doors upon him forcibly.

II. Capt. T. was not paid for what he did; but the dram-seller is paid for his drams. Not content with destroying men gratis, he must needs take money for it. Now Capt. T., we venture to say, would have declined any compensation, but not so the dram-seller. He is well paid, and, perhaps, something whispers in his ears at times, *there is another payment yet*. There is a day coming when all accounts will be settled, and the last farthing earned in this traffic will be paid.

III. Capt. T. had not long to reflect. The wind and tide were carrying him onward away from the steambot, and soon it was out of his power to render aid. But the dram-seller has days and weeks and years to reflect, and still he keeps on his way dealing out death.

IV. Capt. T. did not see the sufferers—they were far away, he could scarcely see the boat. But the dram-seller sees his victim, sees him stagger and reel, and with all this before his eyes, and perhaps a poor wife and helpless children entreating him to stop, still keeps on this cruel course.

V. Capt. T. neglected only a hundred persons, or perhaps a few more. But the dram-seller's victims are counted by hundreds, and the number is enlarging, and some dram-sellers can reckon their thousands.

Now for the conclusion. Reader, pronounce your verdict. If Capt. T. deserved infamy, how much blacker should be the infamy of the dram-seller? If Capt. T. was guilty, what word is strong enough to express the deep, dark guilt of the dram-seller? Can he not say with truth,

"Oh! my offence is rank, it smells to heaven."

If we should say that he was dead to the feelings of humanity, I fear we should speak the truth.

If the reader has accompanied me thus far, he will suffer the inquiry—If he supports and countenances the public sentiments which licenses the dram-seller, while it condemns Capt. T., and does not *this public sentiment condemn the less and spare the greater?*

S. C.

FOR THE ADVOCATE.

TO CHILDREN.—My little friends, I have two facts, which I wish to tell you about Temperance. A little girl in this city was once invited to a party of other children, and after enjoying their sports for sometime, the lady at whose house they were, brought them some nice things to eat and drink. She brought some wine with the rest of the things, but this little girl refused it, when it was offered to her. The lady seemed quite surprised, and asked her why she would not drink any. "Because," said she, "it is not right for little girls to drink it, and mother has told me not to."

On New Year's day, two fine little fellows running through one

of the streets of this city, found a bottle of whiskey laying in the road. Instead of drinking it, one says to the other, "What shall we do with it, shall we take it home and let the folks see it?" "I think not," says the other. "Shall we pour the whiskey out on the ground?" said the first—"No," said the other, "I'll tell you what we will do with it, we'll *break it*;" and raising his arm, he threw it with all his might against a stone, and smashed it to pieces.

Follow the example of these little boys and this little girl, my young friends, and be not ashamed to tell every body that you "touch not, taste not, handle not," any thing which can intoxicate.

Your friend, MELVIN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—On my way home from an attendance at Sherbrooke of the Congregational Union of Lower Canada, I take up my pen to address a few lines in support of the temperance cause. I have had much conversation with various friends relative to the total abstinence pledge, and it is my intention this evening, together with another brother in the ministry, to address a meeting in this village, and to stir up the friends to an increased advocacy of the cause in question.

I wish to know why any should be inactive in a cause that commends itself to enlightened reason, and that bears marks of the divine approval. I fear that many of the members of our Society are but of little use to their fellow-men. They belong to the Society it is true, but they do little for its extension. The enemy comes in like a flood, but they do not lift up a standard against him. Whilst I am opposed to women officiating in church matters, I would suggest the propriety of their acting in this and other benevolent institutions. I know their influence, and am anxious to secure it. If the fair ones would espouse our cause, our success would be greatly promoted.

I am not an advocate for ultra teetotalism, nor indeed for any thing extravagant. Let our principles be enforced with prudence and christian kindness upon the ground of expediency, and many more will be added to our list than by any other means. Firmness, consistency, and zeal are becoming, especially as based upon scriptural principle; and here our female friends can act with us. I wish all our steps to be conducted in harmony with female modesty and benevolence, and in no way act contrary to christian decorum.

My time prevents me from giving utterance to a variety of thoughts relative to the extension of total abstinence societies. I cannot refrain, however, from making a few remarks. I think it is the duty of christian ministers, upon the ground of expediency, to lend their influence to our society. The saying is true in many respects, "like minister, like people." The people of our charge are greatly influenced by our example. If we love "a glass," they will imbibe our taste. If we are neutral, they will be neutral. If we oppose to any extent, they will do likewise. If we are practical or avowed teetotalers, they will tread in our footsteps. At all events, whatever others do, we should be foremost in every benevolent and religious interest. I wish to see the officers and members of our churches take a firm stand on this point.

Let none say, preaching and teaching will remove intemperance, and nothing additional is required. I am as strong an advocate as any for such efforts, but produce authority for resting there. Upon this ground, far well to Bible, Missionary, Tract, and other Societies. Let the Bible be the only rule of our faith and conduct; let this be the only ground of appeal in religious matters; but let every effort be made for the benefit of our race that harmonizes with its benevolent principles.

I am, &c.,

JAMES T. BYRNE.

Granby, Feb. 15, 1840.

FOR THE ADVOCATE.

WHAT IS THE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY DOING?

Look at that poor weather-beaten sailor. Who is he? He is an old man-o'-war's man, who has served his country in many a hard fought battle, even to the shedding of his blood. He has climbed the topmast's giddy height in many a terrific tempest, when the mere thought of his perilous situation would make a landsman tremble.—But he has forsaken the sea, and has come ashore to

enjoy the comforts of domestic bliss. He marries the girl of his heart, and his earnings as a laborer and rigger of ships, are sufficient to support them in their humble sphere. Follow him to his home. There are three children, one of them a young babe—a few scanty rags cover them—the bed on which the two elder children sleep is made of straw, and their only covering is their father's coat, which in regard to suffering humanity some benevolent friend has given him—two broken chairs and two stools made of blocks of wood, are the only seats—a rough bench serves the purpose of a table—tin cups, some broken plates, and a few articles of similar convenience make up the furniture. A very few sticks of wood is all their supply of fuel, at the commencement of a Canadian winter. How is this? His earnings through the summer have been sufficient to make them comfortable, why then this destitution and misery? Ask the dram-seller. He's got poor Joe's money, and has given him in exchange that which has made his home a hell upon earth. A wound on his head made him a perfect maniac when under the influence of liquor, and often, very often has his wife been obliged to take her little ones and fly to a neighbor's house on his approach, to remain there till the paroxysm was past.

But who is this following Joe,—a friend? yes, a *teetotaller* who kindly pleads with him, and begs him to leave off drink. In his sober moments he listens, is convinced, and signs a probation ticket to try and abstain for two months. After proving him, this friend takes him by the hand, and leads him to the house of God. There he hears the Gospel the first time for many years. God is there, and he is in an agony under a sense of his sins. But there is mercy, and ere long he is an humble penitent at the foot of the cross of Christ. How changed. Yes, the old sailor who could stare the lightning in the face, and who never trembled at the roar of the cannon amid the din of battle, while the bodies of his fallen comrades lay thick around him,—who never thought of his Maker but to take his name in vain,—now weeping over his sins—and then "sitting clothed and in his right mind;" his blasphemies and curses exchanged for praise and prayer. "He which converteth a sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." Reader, the above has taken place recently in Montreal. Join the total abstinence society, then, "go thou and do likewise."

MELVIN.

Letters to the Editor.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

CHATHAM, February 12, 1840.

SIR,—Since my last letter from Windsor, a good deal has been doing in the Western District.

The Societies, military and civilian, at Amherstburgh continue to hold meetings every fortnight; and each Society receives a considerable addition at every meeting. The Military Society in the 34th Regt. now numbers about 130 members; and the Amherstburgh Society (from which a report is to be forwarded to you) is, I believe, as numerous. This last named Society has ordered 80 copies of the *Advocate*. Its meetings are attended with much interest.

The Sandwich Society had an addition of (I believe) seventeen members at last meeting. Its meetings are also held once a fortnight. The members belonging to this Society, including about twenty of the military of the place, who, however, have a separate organization, is about sixty, including several of the most respectable inhabitants of the place. I was particularly pleased to see a number of young ladies give the weight of their influence to the good cause, by signing the pledge. The Society can scarcely fail to prosper when such influence is exerted in its favour. A good number of French Canadians have likewise joined this Society.

The Society at Windsor carries on its operations with spirit and success. The whole number of members is now about seventy. Its meetings are also once a fortnight, and the interest in them appears to be increasing. Between Windsor and Sandwich, I have received orders for sixty copies of the *Advocate*.

By particular request, I have visited this place (Chatham), and held two meetings. There has never been a Society here on the

teetotal pledge, and Intemperance has been carried to a fearful extent; but the time for re-action has, I trust, arrived. Indeed I never visited any place where temperance principles were received more eagerly, or carried out more zealously. At the first meeting, twenty subscribed the pledge; at the second, twenty-seven; making, in two days, forty-seven members, from whom I have received an order for forty numbers of the *Advocate*, which you will please forward regularly (beginning with January number) to Mr. Basset, teacher, Secretary of the Society, who is to forward you a report of our proceedings. I trust the Society will soon order double the quantity of *Advocates*. The office-bearers elected are, Mr. Griffiths, *President*; Rev. Mr. Baxter, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Lowell, *Vice-Presidents*; Mr. Basset, *Secretary*; Mr. Pratt, *Treasurer*; and an Executive Committee of six persons; and from what I could learn, they are all likely to prove efficient men; indeed they have taken hold of the subject with an energy worthy of its importance. A number of the merchants of the place say they will join as soon as their present stock of liquors is out.

At Chatham, as well as Sandwich, Windsor, and Amherstburgh, a number of the most respectable ladies of the place have joined the Society.

A very interesting document was put into my hands to-night, being the teetotal pledge signed by twenty individuals of Raleigh, the next township, with an invitation to me to attend a meeting there, and assist in forming them into a Society. They had heard of the proceedings in Chatham, and, to show their sincerity in requesting assistance, had signed the pledge themselves. I regretted that my engagements, which are already formed all along the road, hindered me from complying with this very gratifying requisition; but they are going to hold a meeting themselves, form a Society, and send an order for the *Advocate*.

I had also an opportunity of ascertaining the importance of forwarding the *Advocate* to Clergymen. The Rev. Mr. Baxter (Methodist) told me today that he has been supplied with it for a year back, and that he takes it round with him to a circle of stations, embracing nearly seventy miles, and lends it out to each station in turn. Who can calculate the good effected by this one copy? I have furnished him with a few tracts, and deeply regret that I had it only in my power to give a few. My next appointments are at Sarina, Amiens, and London.

I am, your's truly,

JOHN DOUGALL.

P. S. I received an interesting communication from our early and able advocate, the Rev. G. W. Perkins, which I shall hand to you when I return.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR,—Since my last quarterly report, our Society has had two meetings; one a special meeting, 25th November, and the other an annual meeting, 13th instant. The special meeting was called to discuss the question—"Is it advisable to have only the Total Abstinence pledge connected with this Society?" Three members advocated the affirmative, and two the negative. The discussion proved quite interesting; and, at its close, on the vote being taken, *all the members present* (not excepting even the negative speakers) declared themselves in favour of the dismissal of the old pledge; but the time for its removal was reserved for the consideration of some future meeting. Some of the arguments, were as follows. The affirmative urged that—

The total pledge secures all that is good in the moderate pledge without any of its evils.

The moderate pledge does not answer the end of the Temperance Association, with respect to drunkenness itself.

The connection of the moderate pledge with the total pledge, may be productive of much *positive evil*.

The continuance of the moderate pledge is not likely to gain any persons to the Society who are possessed of sufficient information, zeal, spirit of sacrifice, energy, and independence of mind, to be of any particular benefit to the cause.

The entire temperance press advocates the total pledge only.

The continuance and proffer of the moderate pledge at our meetings, practically overlooks the really horrid character of the indulgence and trade in the weaker drinks.

To continue the moderate pledge is a tacit admission, that the common use of some kinds of intoxicating drinks is right and proper.

The subscriber to the moderate pledge, though he use only such drinks as his pledge is acknowledged to allow, actually violates it; inasmuch as the wines in common use (from their iniquitous manufacture) contain the very ardent spirits which that pledge forbids.

If wine, which the moderate pledge allows, were made as cheap as ardent spirits, its use would be as extensive, and the evil effects as great, as in the case of France.

The subscriber to the moderate pledge, while taking wine in company with those who use stronger drinks, does not exert an influence towards removing the evil of intemperance.

The majority of even the opposers of Temperance Societies, at this day, generally desire nothing stronger than the moderate pledge allows.

Nothing can be adduced from Scripture to authorize the use, as a common beverage, of the intoxicating wines of the present day.

As one of the positive evils of the moderate pledge, it increases the respectability of the weaker drinks, makes it an object for the manufacturer to have a larger quantity of liquors bearing the name of wine, &c., and thus tends to iniquity in making.

The moderate pledge is more difficult to observe; inasmuch as its subscribers are in the way of temptation, and those of the total are not.

The example of those who drink according to the moderate pledge, has a worse influence than that of the absolute drunkard; inasmuch as the one disgusts, while the other decoys.

The continuance of the moderate pledge may induce persons, who are yet to become members, to try an expedient which all acknowledge is not safe, and which may prove their ruin; when, if the total pledge only was offered, they might be more willing to subscribe it; and thus to act on the safe principle of abstinence from all that intoxicates.

The substance of the reasons offered by the negative was, that although a universal practice on the principles of the Total Abstinence Pledge would be more beneficial than to have even a small part of the whole, practice on the moderate pledge, still, believing that there would continue to be persons willing to subscribe to the moderate pledge, who would not to the total pledge, it would be better to have them under the restraint of the first pledge, than to have them entirely disconnected with the Society. The negative contended also that subscribing the moderate pledge was calculated to prove a *stepping-stone* to the other; and, in that manner, subscribers would be obtained to the *total pledge*, who would otherwise keep entirely aloof.

At the Annual Meeting, 13th instant, the Secretary's Report for the past year was read, and the officers of the Society were chosen for the ensuing year, viz.:—C. H. Peck, *President*; Wm. Patrick, *Vice-President*; W. D. Dickinson, *Secretary*; and a Corresponding Committee of five.

A powerful address was then delivered by the Rev. Henry Wilkinson; after which both pledges were offered for signature, when the names of four were transferred from the moderate to the total pledge. The following resolution, having been proposed three months previous, passed without a dissenting vote:

Resolved,—That, in the opinion of this Society, its usefulness would be increased by having only the Total Abstinence pledge connected with it. They therefore decide that the 10th article of their Constitution, commonly called the "old pledge," and which allows the use of fermented liquors, be expunged from the Society's books; and that its present subscribers are respectfully, and in the most friendly manner, invited to give their names to the new pledge, as those not subscribing that pledge will be considered as having withdrawn from the Society; and they hope that the cases of withdrawal will be but very few, if any.

It was also

Resolved,—That the warmest thanks of this Society are due to the Methodist Denomination, for the privilege afforded of holding its meetings in their chapel during the past year.

A vote of thanks was passed unanimously for the valuable services of the Rev. H. Wilkinson during the past year, as also for this signing. It was also, with equal unanimity,

Resolved,—That the cause of temperance would be greatly served by publishing the address with which the meeting had just been favoured.

Accordingly, the promise has been obtained from Mr. Wilkinson to furnish us with a copy, which we shall endeavour soon to have in pamphlet form for circulation. I remain, &c.

W. D. DICKINSON, *Secretary*.

Prescott, Jan. 18, 1840.

[We are obliged, for want of space, to give the following abstract of the Report above mentioned.—Ed. T. A.]

After acknowledging the hand of Providence in their prosperity, it is stated, that although not many rich, "not many mighty, not many noble" have joined them, yet their object is approved by the public, who are willing to acknowledge there are more reasons for than against them.

Regular quarterly meetings have been held, besides two special meetings, and addresses delivered from Rev. H. Wilkinson and Rev. H. Mulkins. During the year several individuals have joined the Society, for the sole purpose of saving themselves from intemperance; and thus far the total abstinence pledge has proved a safe retreat.

At the commencement of the year, the number of members was 43 to the total abstinence pledge; 54 have joined it since; 9 have removed from the bounds of the Society, and 1 withdrawn; making the present number of subscribers to the total pledge 87, and the increase since last year 44.

The old pledge has received 11 new subscribers during the year; 9 have removed, 7 have transferred their names to the total pledge, and 1 has withdrawn; leaving the present number to the old pledge 29, being a *decrease* of 6 during the year.

The Society has not allowed its rules to be violated with impunity; and it is urged on members to be faithful, and report to the officers any cases of violation that may come to their knowledge.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

Sir,—On the 17th instant we held our Anniversary Meeting, and notwithstanding we were not favoured with the presence of some friends whose aid we expected on the occasion, the result was encouraging to the friends of temperance.

The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Mr. Lang of the W. M. Church, Mr. A. Carter, Sergt. Wharin, R. A. and Mr. Thomas H. Beatty. The addresses were listened to with the greatest attention by the largest assembly we have had since the formation of our Society. The report of the Committee was read and accepted, a constitution differing very little from that of your Society adopted, and the old officers and committee re-appointed for the current year. You are aware that our society commenced its operations on the 7th December with less than thirty members. On the 23d we numbered forty; and on the occasion of an address on the 24th from the Rev. Mr. Green, of the Wesleyan Methodist church, were added nine or ten more; and up to the 17th instant, our whole number was seventy-six.

We now have upwards of one hundred members, all teetotallers, many of whom, at the time the society was instituted, were decidedly opposed to the principle of total abstinence. I am fully convinced that the success of the cause, in a very great degree, depends on the frequency of public addresses and the general diffusion of knowledge on the subject through the medium of temperance publications. By these means the subject will be frequently discussed by many, to whose minds it would otherwise, perhaps, seldom or never occur. Small as our society is, and limited as its operations have necessarily been, I believe it has given rise to a more general discussion of the principle of total abstinence than I ever knew here at any former period. Nearly 200 of our townsmen take the *Advocate* through our society, and a considerable number of temperance tracts have been distributed gratis. We have a very active and intelligent lad, a member, who, at the time the society was instituted, kindly offered his services as Tract distributor. This young pioneer in the cause, has more than once elicited the thanks of the committee for the very efficient and thorough manner in which he discharges the duties of his undertaking. He is now, however, destitute of tracts, and as they cannot be obtained here, he will be obliged (much to his dissatisfaction) to remain comparatively idle till a supply can be obtained elsewhere. There

is evidently a stir among the friends of temperance in various parts of this district. Newburgh, Clarksville and Ernest Town are up and doing.—Pittsburg is discussing the subject; and I believe a society will shortly be instituted within the walls of Fort Henry.

I am, &c. W. F. COLLINS, Sec.

Kingston, January 29, 1840.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ADVOCATE.

SIR.—We have much pleasure in forwarding you the following brief outline of the proceedings at the public meeting of the Quebec Total Abstinence Society, held in the School-Room of the Education Society, on Tuesday evening, 4th instant. The meeting was numerous and respectable, and we feel persuaded that, considering the circumstances under which we assembled, all present were much gratified, and many will remember the evening with pleasure. The chair was occupied by JEFFERY HALE, Esq., Receiver-General of the Province, who is President of the Society. Precisely at the time appointed, the chairman rose, and after taking a concise view of the state of the Society, gave some reasons why its proceedings had not been more public, at the same time stating, that although no meetings of the nature of the present had been held for some time past, yet the work had gone forward, and there was every reason to believe that it would continue to prosper. The present meeting was held for the purpose of advocating the cause of Total Abstinence from all intoxicating drinks; moderation had been recommended, but it had failed in preventing the abuse of them; nothing less than total abstinence would effect the object. He also referred to official documents, stating the enormous amounts expended in England and Ireland annually, for intoxicating drinks, also the amount spent in Canada for the same object: he stated that drunkenness and debauchery are the principal causes why it is found necessary to keep up a Police establishment, at an expense of about £6000 per annum; the only benefits arising from which are, the keeping our streets clear from those scenes which otherwise would be disgusting to humanity, and annoying to the community at large; thus it was highly necessary to combine all our efforts in promoting the principles of total abstinence. As he had stated before, moderation had failed to accomplish its objects, for the ranks of drunkards were filled up from those of moderate drinkers; men do not become drunkards all at once, but certain it is that the moderate drinker does more to encourage drunkenness than the confirmed drunkard; because no individual will take pattern from him; while the respectable moderate drinker is a pattern to others, and induces many to follow on in the same course, until they become confirmed in their drunken habits. It therefore was the duty of all, to consider well what had been advanced, and he felt persuaded, that after a fair and serious consideration, it would be found that the benefits arising from a strict adherence to the principles of the Society, were calculated to promote the good, not only of individuals, but of families, and indeed of the whole community.

The chairman before taking his seat called upon Doctor JAMES DOUGLAS. This learned medical gentleman rose amid the manifestations of satisfaction by the audience. He began by reading a certificate given some years since to a number of gentlemen in this city, who had formed themselves into a society to inquire into the causes of poverty and misery which prevail to so great an extent in our city and neighbourhood. This certificate signed by eight or ten of the most respectable medical practitioners of this city, and by Dr. DOUGLAS among them, positively asserts that the principal cause of poverty and crime, is the use of intoxicating drinks. Dr. DOUGLAS said that to bring a man to a perfect state of health of body, and vigour of mind, he must be kept on the principle of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks. Men who are prepared for prize fights, or for great bodily exercise, are kept on that principle; those who make wagers of this kind, (who are generally publicans or tavern-keepers) understand their interests better than to give their men any thing of an intoxicating nature; they are aware that the use of spirits in the smallest quantity would defeat their object. Further, some of our land surveyors who occasionally avail themselves of the services of Indians as guides through the woods, had been in the habit of giving them two or three glasses of rum per day, but they preferred that the Indians should sit and

empty their keg before starting, as thereby they could afterwards depend upon their regular assistance, until the work was concluded. Mr. Russell, who is a member of the society, had given up the practice; he gave them tea and sugar, and found that they were better fitted to pursue their duties with satisfaction to themselves and their employers. Again, the man who has grown old in the habit of drinking moderately, is looked to with great anxiety, if he has an attack of sickness, and the chances of his recovery are comparatively small: even if the individual catch cold, the doctor has not only to rally him from the effects of the disorder, but to cure him from the havoc which the use of intoxicating drinks has had upon his constitution; and in most cases, the disease reaches the lungs, and affects them so powerfully, that the man, through his moderation alone, is hurried to a premature grave. The Doctor ended his remarks by stating several facts which had come to his knowledge, and some instances where he had been present at the coroner's inquest. From information procured by him from the coroner, it appeared that the cases of sudden deaths from 1st May to 16th January last, had been 49; that out of this number 23 were cases on the water and 26 on the land. The whole number were ascertained to have occurred while the individuals were under the influence of intoxicating liquors. One case was particularly noticed. Dr. DOUGLAS was called to attend an inquest on the body of a child four years old, it was ascertained that this child had been a drunkard two years; and on the day of his death had been left alone in the house, when he had found the means of drawing spirits from a small keg within its reach, and had actually drunk himself to death. A younger child was found drunk in the house by some of the neighbours, and they supposed that the child's life had been preserved by infusing tobacco juice down its throat, and suspending it by the heels; the mother was an habitual drunkard. Another case was that of a man, who after a dispute with his wife, while both were under the influence of spirits, had cut his throat, and the wife, after forcing him to hold his head over a bucket to prevent the blood from running through the floor upon the neighbours below, had left the house to seek for more drink, and had returned two or three hours after her husband had breathed his last. Lastly, he stated that during the summer of 1838, out of some hundreds of surgical cases in the General Hospital, only four or five individuals were not under the influence of strong drink, and during the last year only seven or eight were perfectly sober. The Doctor closed by saying that he had occupied a sufficient length of time, else he could multiply facts almost to infinity, but promised on a future occasion again to advocate the same cause.

The Rev. Mr. ATKINSON, of the Congregational church in this city, then rose, and introduced the subject by reading extracts from the Review of a work by Mr. Dunlop; he related two or three anecdotes of moderate drinkers becoming drunkards, one of whom (a minister of the gospel), had become a sober man by joining a total abstinence society; and who, after having been expelled the ministry for some time, had again become a zealous and faithful preacher of the gospel of Christ. Mr. ATKINSON then met the objection that the abuse is no argument against the use of intoxicating drinks; he argued from two instances in the scriptures, in which the use of certain expressions was prohibited, because these expressions had been abused. He also brought forward the fact of a clergyman, an eminently good man, who took daily one glass of gin and water, and who, during a long life, never exceeded this quantity; his son who had been brought up under the impression that "a little does good," not possessing the same command over himself, ran gradually into excess; he became a constant guest at one of the meanest taverns in the town, and finally, his brutish habits became so disgusting, even to the keeper of this moral hell, that he was expelled from it; he left home for this continent some time since, and the relater who had been acquainted with him has not heard what has become of him.

Mr. ATKINSON closed by a powerful appeal to fathers, against teaching their offspring by their example to follow in the same steps, lest their end should be the same. He had much pleasure in stating that in Bristol, England, out of 310 reclaimed drunkards, 218 had become decidedly christian men.

We are, &c.

LE SEUR & M'LAREN, Secretaries.

Quebec, Feb. 10, 1840.