

They helped him to get his food, and feed his children, and make them a covert from the storm. They are the fathers of all statuary, painting and architecture; and invested with just the more divine dignity than they, as they possess the more faculty to do for man. Therefore, of all human works, those he has endowed with a kind of creative capacity, or a faculty of labouring for his comfort, are most entitled to the quality of divinity, and to the veneration of mankind; for they are not only his doing, but his faculties to do what he could not do before.

Denying that God had cursed the earth, the lecturer eloquently arraigned man, charging him not only with having cursed himself with every form of sin, misery, and degradation; but also with having cursed the earth with all the burning leprosy that has blotched its face from creation downwards, and then charged that curse upon his Maker. But God said that the earth should bring forth thorns and thistles to man. Glorious truth! In that declaration were embraced the high reward of industry, and the Cain-mark curse of idleness. It announced a provision of infinite grace and wisdom to make the pleasures of sense and life the reward to activity and labour. Thorns and thistles have ever grown in rank profusion; but always upon the grave of labour; never, never beneath her feet. They have been, and ever will be, the spontaneous harvest of idleness, the evidence of inaction, of the absence of labour. Two centuries ago they spread in bristling ranks and tangled thickets, over the whole wide wilderness of America; and now that world of Eden fertility is a perennial trophy of labour, which has made, or will make, that wilderness blossom as the rose. It is true that thorns and thistles have not been confined to the sombre solitudes of barbarism; they have grown rankest over all the blood-seethed fields of battle. They are the only crop which any soil, enriched by human blood, will yield. They spring up where the soldier treads, and thrive beneath the sword and bayonet, but they wither at the labourer's breath, and die beneath the mattock and the spade. The earth that has drunk the blood of millions of her sons, appeals to God, and witnesses that man has cursed everything he touched—cursed the land and sea; cursed the iron, gold, and silver; cursed his own labour and all the productions of the soil; cursed his own heart, his affections and appetites. Sin, misery, slavery, war, want, and idleness, are all his inventions; and they have cost him labour too. In conclusion, Mr. Burritt asked—Why, then, this lurking suspicion that the necessity of labour arose from a disorganized state of humanity,—that it was an unfortunate casualty, an overwhelming retribution of divine justice, that degraded man; that dashed the crown of honour from his head, soiled his brow with the sweat of labour, making him the object of pity in the eyes of superior beings? Why these half-suppressed murmurs at the hard lot which labour has imposed on humanity? Why the querulous complaint of the labourer or the workman—"I have to get my bread by the sweat of my brow!" Man! think better of your destiny. Being is the state of matter; doing is the state of God. And, regard it as you will, your faculties to do are the only features of your resemblance to your maker, and every additional trait which you may add to that resemblance, must be supplied by the faithful and continuous exercise of those faculties. As there is necessarily embraced in the essence of God more of holiness, happiness, goodness, power, and wisdom, than in the whole universe beside, so in him must centre more of being, action, and labour. Therefore, well-doing, well-doing, and well-doing, are inseparable conditions, that reach through all the cycles of eternity, embracing all intelligent beings that can do, and so to say, determining their respective degrees of consanguinity to God.

Communications.

[For the Gleaner.]

INTemperance.

The true theory of the Universe is, that it is a vehicle or medium constructed for the express purpose of circulating and diffusing benevolence. The GREAT CREATOR, in the mechanism of this our globe, has so arranged every part of the creation, that it should administer to the happiness of Man, its sublimate proprietor. But how soon were the Divine intentions frustrated! Man, leaguering himself with the arch-enemy of his race, has become the ignoble vassal of the banished Archangel; and by a system of revolt and reiterated transgressions, has found and fabricated his own misery. Multitudinous are the evils under which he suffers by thus co-operating with Satanic agency;—he has broken the axis around which his happiness revolved, and in the emphatic language of the prophet, "from the crown of the head to the sole of the foot all is wounds and bruises and putrifying sores." Among those evils which brought about so fearful a consummation, INTemperance stands pre-eminent. This was the master-piece of Satan; and in its operations has done more to promote the interests of his infernal empire than all other evils put together. Its influence is confined to no one portion of the globe;—wherever we find man, either civilized or barbarous, there we find Intemperance. In Asia, as well as in Europe, in Hong Kong as well as in London; in the hall of greatness, and in the dwellings of squalid poverty; and wherever it is found it produces the same degrading and demoralizing results. Other evils are limited in their operations, and circumscribed in their effects, but Intemperance defies the bounds

and barriers of Man. Disdaining to confine its influence to this or that portion of our world, it has succeeded in injecting its virus in a sphere which knows no circumference. It first presented itself, in its tinsel character, to the aged Patriarch of the antediluvian world. He who had survived the awful catastrophe of the flood, when Earth, Air, Sea, and Sky conspired against man, to prostrate and to punish his impiety; he who had sailed over a buried planet, and rested in security on "Arrarat's summit," no sooner had beheld the world emerge from its liquid grave, and again appear in pristine beauty, than "he planted a vineyard, and got drunk of the fruit thereof." This was the starting point of Intemperance; and encouraged by the success that attended its first essay upon our race, it adapted itself to the diversified positions of man, and keeping pace with the increase of our world's population, has now enlarged itself into a colossal dominion, that has Oceans for its highways, Kingdoms for its outposts, and whose boundaries extend to every quarter of the Globe. It embraces in its mighty grasp, every diversity of climate, creed, and complexion! and having extended its conquests century after century, it now stands upon a column of its own architecture, around whose pedestal lie bleaching the bones of its hapless victims, and around whose summit flashes the penal fires of an incensed Deity.

Behold the man whose superior attainments enable him to travel in thought beyond those twinkling luminaries which bespangle Heaven's far-off concave; who can calculate with unerring precision the circumference, density, velocity, and the varied properties of the planetary world, destroying the energies of his mind, preferring the excitement of the midnight revel to the sublime contemplation of the upper skies; and by a course of dissipation, losing the esteem and respect of his fellow-man, and sinking himself into

"The depths of the deep, in a deeper gulf still." What, I say, can be a more moving spectacle? Well might it enlist our sympathies, move our sensibilities, and call forth all our commiseration. But man has become habituated to such scenes, and the horror is modified in the frequency of the occurrence. Contemplate the career of him whom Providence has placed at the head of a family, united by earth's holiest tie, to one of Heaven's best creatures, one who sympathizes with him in trouble, cheers him when despondent, and contributes in every possible way to his happiness; his children look up to him for instruction and example; around his fireside peace and comfort have taken their stand, and happiness broods over a place so congenial to its nature. But anon! Intemperance visits his habitation, and gains admittance under the mask of the "Social Glass." Soon the "social drinker" becomes the "moderate drinker;" the "moderate drinker" becomes the "immoderate drinker," and thus he is hurried on from one stage to another, until he sinks prematurely into the drunkard's grave. Turn your thoughts for a moment to the haggard children and broken-hearted wife, and let imagination fill the picture, which no combination of words can portray. Alas for humanity, how many evils are couched under the simple title "The Social Glass." Thousands after thousands have been led to destruction; who never dreamed, when they partook of it, that it contained the elements of Death. Like the river above the falls of Niagara, whose placid bosom gives no intimation to him who is unacquainted with its deceptive appearance, that there is an awful and tremendous chasm below,—so Intemperance lulls the conscience of its victim, and carrying him onward swiftly, though perhaps imperceptibly, he awakes not to the reality of his situation, until he is hurried beyond the bounds of self government, into the vortex of misery, wretchedness, death.

But why should I particularize. We have but to look around us, and even in the circle of our own acquaintance, we see thrilling evidences of its direful results. Well might the blotted history of Intemperance arouse the spirit of every philanthropist, to make a stand against the onward march of the bloated fiend; and although Alcohol had almost gained Universal Empire, the means made use of to counteract its progress, were significantly efficacious. Like the scene which passed in panorama before the luminous gaze of Egypt's king, when he beheld the stone cut out of the mountain without hands, and wending its way to smite the image of gigantic stature,—so "Total Abstinence," though subjected to the scoff of infidels, the jeers of the witty, and the frowns of the pious, has become eminently successful, as an antagonist principle, in reclaiming the drunkard from the tenacious grasp of the fell destroyer. Families where misery, want and woe had become the constituents of their daily experience, felt the renovating power of the great reaction of the temperance cause; and Intemperance meeting with such signal defeats in the western world, fell with a precipitancy almost equalled to the rapidity of its flight. If a Wilberforce has insured the admiration of mankind, by acting so conspicuous a part in the liberation of the fettered African; and if his name, with that of the benevolent Howard, will continue to shine as stars of the first magnitude in the galaxy of philanthropy, so should the names of those who have devoted their time and talents to remove the misery brought about by the poisonous draughts of the "Devil's Elixir," shine with a brilliancy of no subordinate character. In conclusion, I would observe that if those who feel interested in the temperance cause would use their united efforts, by precept and example, soon would Intemperance start from our shores, as from the "Glance of Destiny;" and Alcohol wing its way back again to the sulphurous lake from whence it had its origin.

Total Abstinence is an efficacious antidote. The truth of this is no longer problematical; the past bears evidence of its vitality; the present proves its elasticity; while the future will behold its glorious triumph.

EPAMONONDAS.

August, 1846.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1846.

"DOG IN A MANGER."

We fully concur with our Shediac correspondent in most of what he has said upon the expediency of cultivating our great, rich, and abundant natural resource, our Fishery—but at the same time cannot help prefacing any remark that we may offer with the above trite, yet truly applicable saying, viz: "Dog in a Manger"—It is needless to explain its suitability, as almost every child understands it.

We cannot conceive, after having turned our attention to the subject for years, how it is, that our people are so insensible to their own interests in this particular respect. It is perfectly true, that on several parts of our sea coast, and on several of our rivers the inhabitants, at the same time that in some cases abundance of fish is to be had in due season within gun-shot, and in others within stone-throw of the shores, and in some even of their dwellings, yet that several families thro' the winter season, and that in most cases where the art of procuring fish is perfectly well understood by them, resort to the merchants in our towns and villages for supplies of that necessary article—yes, and to their shame be it told, in many, many instances, haul home with them, distances of from ten to fifty or sixty miles, an article which is scarcely fit for the consumption of hogs, in the shape of rusty or stinking herrings! This we admit is plain, strong language, but how else are persons in such a shameful state of lethargy to be aroused than by startling language, as best calculated to convey to such minds such familiar, yet startling facts.

QUEER. Do not the merchants in the several parts of our section of the Province count upon the "along shore" fishermen, among others, as consumers for any refuse fish that may happen to fall into their hands from time to time? And how disgraceful to such men to resort to such means in almost every winter in order to prevent their wives and children from being driven to the necessity of "eating the big potato with the little one."

We would, in this connexion, observe that we have been on several occasions thro' this summer favored with dishes of salt water fish; fresh, and in a very fine state. There was thro' the course of last week a very fine supply of Cod, Haddock, and Mackerel; and in one case some as fine Halibut as we have ever seen. The parties have invariably met with quick sales, at remunerating prices, and no orders in payment.

We hope they may continue to visit us, and are assured they never will do so in vain. But this is a "mere drop in the bucket"—we want the fishery in all its departments, prosecuted with spirit, energy, and enterprise—in as much as we want our people to prosper and do well.

LAUNCHES.

On Monday last, from the building yard of the Honble. Joseph Cunard, at Kouchibouguac, the barque "Abbyland," of 550 tons.

On Saturday last, from Mr Cunard's yard at Bathurst, the barque "Hydapsis," 450 tons.

On Wednesday last, from the yard of the same gentleman in Chatham, the elegantly modelled little steamer, "Velocity,"

of about 120 tons, and thirty-five horse power. This elegant little vessel, as were both the others, was constructed under the superintendence of Mr Wm. Rennie, and adds another laurel to those already earned by that gentleman. She was launched under the direction of Mr James Fitzgibbon.

We understand this steamer is intended principally for such employment as this port, and those of Bathurst, Shippegan, and Kouchibouguac, together with the intermediate rivers, Pokemouche, Tracad, Tabusantac, &c., may furnish, and if so, we do not remember an investment of the extent within this, and the ports above named, in which the commercial community are more interested; or by which they can be benefited to a greater extent, if they only avail themselves of her.

Very great and important facilities will also be within the reach of such ships as visit those ports, by the existence of this steamer,—as in from six to eight hours an application may reach her "head quarters" at Chatham from any of the places named, and in which her services may be required.

We sincerely wish her enterprising owner prosperity in this, as well as in his other laudable undertakings, and have little or no doubt that this investment will prove, if properly managed, a remunerating one.

BISHOP OF FREDERICTON'S VISITATION. This Dignitary preached in St. Paul's Church on Sunday morning last, and confirmed from eighty to one hundred individuals. He preached in St. Mary's Chapel in the evening. Left for Bathurst and Restigouche on Monday morning, and returns to Miramichi on Monday next.

THE WEATHER.—The weather since our last notice of it has been as favourable for Agricultural purposes as could have been wished. We have, within the last fortnight, had several seasonable, heavy, showers, and have not within that period experienced any state of temperature calculated to operate prejudicially upon the crops.

THE ELECTION.—The St. John Courier says that the Dissolution will take place about the 22nd of September. The Election may therefore be expected early in October.

The same paper states that at the last sitting of the Executive Council, the sum of £1000 was advanced from the Provincial Treasury for the relief of the Newfoundland sufferers.

The Lieutenant Governor was expected to arrive at St. John from St Andrews on the 11th inst. His Excellency intended to proceed to Bay Verte, to hold a conference with the Railway Commissioners; after which it was His intention to visit the principal places on the Northern Shores of the Province.

ANOTHER DREADFUL FIRE.—The Extra of the Quebec Gazette, received by the mail yesterday, contains an account of a destructive fire at Laprairie, above Montreal, on the 4th inst. The particulars will be found under the proper head.

COUNTY OF KENT.—PUBLIC MEETING.

At a Meeting of the inhabitants of the County of Kent, held at the Court House, on Monday, 27th July, convened by the High Sheriff, for the purpose of adopting measures for the relief of the sufferers by the late Fire at Saint John's, Newfoundland, in accordance with His Excellency's despatch,—

The HIGH SHERIFF being called to the Chair, and Mr LAYTON appointed Secretary. Resolved—That whereas a most destructive conflagration has lately reduced a great part of the city of St. John's, Newfoundland, to ashes, and rendered a very proportion of its inhabitants houseless and destitute, it is necessary and expedient that the inhabitants of this County should use their exertions to obtain subscriptions to be remitted to His Excellency Sir John Harvey, the Lieutenant Governor, for the re-