

the lower classes in both England and Ireland. That men, who will save nothing when they have work, and will drink everything whether they have or not, are likely to be poor, we feel ourselves under no necessity to deny; but that the lower classes do actually receive vast sums of money beyond the necessities of existence, we confidently believe. And this we believe not upon hearsay, but upon the public proofs of Parliament. The pauperism of Ireland affords to pay about eight millions sterling for whiskey, not a drop of which they require, but every drop of which they swallow. This is tolerable for a country of paupers, heart broken with poverty, and not knowing how to get a meal for the morrow in the wide world. But the radical orators of England take up the tale where the Irish mourners break it off; and insist on it, that life is not worth having, when the noblest orders of mankind, the ten pounders, are ground to the dust with taxes, tithes, and other abominations of the aristocracy. But we have two authorities on the opposite side, who very considerably shake our faith and dry our eyes on the matter. The first is Mr Tidd Pratt, the savings banks lawyer; a little man, but a great calculator. Mr Tidd Pratt, tells us and the public, that the deposits in the savings banks amount to little less than eighteen millions of pounds a year; and that by the constant purchase of stock, the lowest orders will soon be the fundholders of England. Eighteen millions is certainly a handsome surplus of the poverty stricken. But Spring Rice also a little man and a great calculator, brings in an account which throws the savings banks into total eclipse; and this is the expenditure on gin. In the year 1834, the poverty of England laid out in gin £21,874,000. This was showy drinking for beggars crushed to the dust by a generation of oligarchs. The account was still better in 1835, when it was only £23,397,000 only an increase of upwards of a million and a half in twelve months! In 1836 it was £24,710,000—the million and a half having been duly kept up. We are to bear in mind also, that the whole population of England and Wales is not above fourteen millions and that the gin drinking is confined to the exclusive pleasures of the populace—gin never being among the luxuries of a gentleman's table, and very seldom finding its way into his house. Even in England the gin drinking is narrowed within these few years, by the teetotalers. Now, if we estimate the deposits in the savings banks so low as the twelve millions a year; namely the full interest of the national debt itself; for every one knows, that the debt is nothing but the interest. Thus, the property of England, if it should please to give up misery and mortality in the shape of dram drinking, and add to what is saved from the gin shop, what it is palpably able to lay by from its daily expenditure, would be enough to pay off the national debt any Easter of its existence. So much for poverty.

From the Canada Temperance Advocate.

STRONG DRINK AND REBELLION.—We said in our last number that alcohol was one of the agents that co-operated in producing the rebellion by which the peace of this province has been so unhappily disturbed. The assertion deserves farther notice than we could then bestow on it—it furnishes a new illustration of the mischief working power and tendency of strong drink. We rest this assertion on the following facts:—First it is well known that, in the country settlements, the principles of rebellion were disseminated in the following manner. The *habitans* assembled in the village tavern once a week, or oftener. There the surgeon, or notary, or schoolmaster, seated at a high desk, read the newspapers to them, accompanying them by such explanatory remarks as to him seemed proper or necessary; and to the excitement arising from

these, was added the excitement arising from rum. This was practiced even in the city of Montreal, as appears from an advertisement published by the Magistrates, in which they refuse to renew the licences of those tavern-keepers, who had permitted such meetings to be held on their premises. Secondly, the prisoners, taken at St. Charles, and St. Eustache, generally declare that they were attracted to the rendezvous by the prospect of getting plenty to eat and drink. They testify that there was great drunkenness in the camp of the former place—some of the commanders were never sober, and, at whatever hour a stranger might enter the camp, he would see some portion of the men intoxicated. At St. Eustache also something similar prevailed, although, not having the distillery of St. Denis in the neighbourhood, they could not carry drunkenness to such an excess.

If these facts do not render it certain that, in fomenting the sedition, alcohol was one of the co-operating causes, that they furnish in our opinion a strong presumption. When or where was the mischief committed in which this "*good creature of God*," had not a hand.

From the P. E. Island Colonial Herald.

TEMPERANCE REPAST.—The 1st of January, being the anniversary of the Three Rivers Temperance Society, the members met agreeably to the appointment, to celebrate that event, by enjoying together a repast at the house of Mr. John M'Laren, which had been previously fitted up for the purpose.

The meeting being opened with prayer, by the Rev. John Shaw, the President made a few remarks on the novel character of their present meeting. The members—upwards of one hundred in number—then sat down to a comfortable cup of tea, coffee, or chocolate, as their inclinations suggested. The tables being removed, the meeting was addressed by Mr. Clay, the Rev. John Shaw, and others, setting forth the evils of intemperance, in glowing colours, and the benefits resulting from the opposite practice, both here and elsewhere, and pressing on the Society the necessity of a steady and consistent perseverance, as the only means to advance the cause and silence gainsayers.

It was highly gratifying to mark the unanimity and cheerfulness which pervaded the whole assembly. The books being opened for signatures, forty-six persons came forward, and signed the pledge. Much praise is due to the President, Mr. Arthur Owen, for his attentive watchfulness over the Society on all occasions; and when the officers were appointed for the ensuing year, he was unanimously re-elected, Mr. William M'Laren, Vice President, and most of the former Committee.

The meeting then broke up, much pleased with the entertainment. The Committee remained a short time after the dismissal, and distributed what remained of the viands amongst a few destitute families who live in the neighbourhood.

From the London Standard.

I had the satisfaction of being present last night (Oct. 25.) at a meeting of protestant Christians of various denominations, held in the Wesleyan Chapel in the Rue d' Anjou St Honoré, at which a report was made by the Rev. Mr. Baird, from America, of his recent tour in Europe to Protestant and Catholic countries, and to Protestant churches. The Rev. Mr Baird is an agent of the American Temperance Societies. He is charged to make known to the old world the progress which the new one has made in the diminishing of that horrible vice, the use and abuse of ardent spirits; and I can bear my humble testimony to the fact, that the agent himself is a living example of the truth of his own predications. The labours of Mr. Baird in Europe have been on

the whole very successful—but nowhere more so or so much so, as in Prussia, where the great and good King of that country (a decidedly religious prince) has taken the subject into his own hands, and has assisted most powerfully all the efforts of the Temperance Societies. But although the mission of Baird be principally one of "Temperance," he is likewise a Christian missionary, and his acquaintance with the French, German, and Italian languages enables him to make considerable way in Europe, and to do in other respects a great deal of good. The progress of the Temperance societies in Prussia is astonishing. There are five in Berlin. Though no public meetings are allowed, private meetings have taken place, and in Berlin lately 100 workmen joined the society. The books published by the Temperance Societies are also read in the schools. Intemperance exists to a deplorable state in Poland, and this hinders the furtherance of the Gospel.

The following article was thrown off the Press at the Tee-Total procession, which lately took place in Dumfries, Scotland. That Society, which had then only been in existence about nine months, numbered 1278.

BE WISE IN TIME!—Parents! you love your children, and desire their happiness, and are willing to sacrifice everything for their good; come, therefore and sign our pledge, and remove the danger of one of the greatest curses approaching your families. Continuing the use of intoxicating liquors, you expose both yourselves and your children to the risk of drinking to excess; observing the social customs, which render wine and spirits common articles of hospitality, you place yourselves in temptation, and draw your children with you. The moderate use of ardent spirits by some, is invariably followed by a proportion of excess in others. Parents, who use them, train their children to use them; and a proportion of drunkenness, with its necessary and attendant evils among their offspring, is the penalty they pay. If some withstand the temptation, others are certain to fall before it. The drunken parent is sure to raise up a race of drunken children; and the only exception is in the case of those who abstain because they are horrified at the poison, which has wasted the strength and destroyed the reason of the parent. Thousands of parents, who have been moderate drinkers for a time, have at last become confirmed drunkards, and have brought upon their house a plague which has withered their enjoyments, consumed their property, and ruined their children. Children trained to the use of ardent spirits have passed through a similar process, and from sipping the drops of their father's glass, begin a propensity which ends in their quaffing bumpers, and debasing themselves to an equality with pigs rolling in the ditches.—Parents! is it wise to continue customs connected with such danger, injurious to all, and fatal to many. What advantage is derived from spirits, wines, and ales, to compensate for the incalculable ruin, temporal and eternal, of children whom you love, and whose life you would save at the risk of your own? If abstinence be felt as a sacrifice, your own safety renders it imperative. Nothing but total abstinence can save you from a propensity, whose dominion you have embraced. Moderation strengthens, but abstinence destroys it. If abstinence be not a sacrifice, then the certain removal of drunkenness from your families is the blessing to be derived from joining our Society. What parent can refuse this blessing, offered to him without money and without price? If you refuse, what shall be your remorse when your children become the slaves of strong drink? Come, parents, and sign our pledge, and remove the danger of one of the greatest curses approaching your families.