

THE TEETOTALLER,

AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak.—Rom. c. 14, v. 21.

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SYDNEY, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1842.

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EXTRACT from a speech delivered by Sir GEORGE GIPPS, the Governor, on the 11th of April, 1839. "Of all the poisons that exist on the face of the earth, there can be no doubt that ardent spirit is by far the most destructive: of all the evils which the creative faculty of man has produced upon the earth, ardent spirits are the greatest: for neither war, plague, famine, pestilence, or disease reckon so many victims as those who perish every year by the use of them. Four-fifths of the murders which redden your soil with human gore, are occasioned by the use of ardent spirits. The devil that first worked a still did more to ruin and to blast mankind, than all the other hosts of darkness combined; and he who now makes and administers this poison will some day have to render an account of his deeds, if not on earth, at least to his God."

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE sittings of the Colonial Legislature ended on Friday last, the Council adjourned *sine die*. The fact, which had been previously made known by the Press, and felt by the colonists, that the Colony was in a state of great and almost unparalleled distress, has been abundantly confirmed by the highest authorities of the land during this Session.

At its commencement, we pointed out to the Members the cause of this distress; we endeavoured to prove that the vast amount spent for intoxicating drinks was the cause of the present distress, and we requested of them, if they doubted the truth of the statement, to appoint a committee to enquire into the subject. We thought, that as wise men, they would wish to know the cause of our distress; that as good men, they might themselves pass, or, if they had not the power, they might recommend to the Home Government to introduce such measures as would prove an effectual remedy.

The sittings of the Council are closed, and nothing has been done. It is, however, worthy of notice, that in the last debate, the truth of all we had previously stated on this subject was by the resolutions of the Council, completely established.

"Resolved, 7. That this Council also concurs with the Committee, (on Emigration), that the immediate abstraction of capital in payment for the importation of emigrants, a portion only of whom add to the productive labour of the Colony, the families for the most part being consumers and not producers for a considerable period after their arrival, must so materially contract that circulation of money which is required to carry on successfully the business of an active community, that it would be impolitic to continue a system fraught with such serious inconveniences." In order that the British Government may understand what it is that has produced such serious inconvenience, a rider is attached to the resolution.

"During the last five years, no less than 54,544 souls have been introduced, at a cost to the Colony of £829,840, exclusively raised within itself, and remitted to the United Kingdom. So vast an effort, for so infant a community, could not fail to produce considerable exhaustion, nor be made without leading to a serious state of depression."

Such was the resolution passed by the Council, let us now see what is the actual truth. The value of the intoxicating drinks imported into the Port of Sydney, (exclusive of Port Phillip), in the years 1840 and 1841, only two years, exclusive of freights and charges, was £852,069 8s. 4d., the account then stands thus:

	£	s.	d.
Paid for intoxicating drinks for two years	852,069	8	4
Paid for the importation of Emigrants for 5 years	829,840	0	0
Balance in favour of intoxicating drinks	22,229	8	4

With such figures before us, we say, that the resolution, No. 7, passed by the Council, is not true. It is not true that the money paid for Emigrants has produced such lamentable results, it is the money paid for intoxicating drinks that has done this, and we insist the more strongly upon this fact, because the know-

ledge of the disease is the first step towards the application of a proper remedy.

His Excellency the Governor is of the same opinion. He told the Council on Friday, after alluding to the circumstance, that the sums accumulated by old Frederick of Prussia, had been shot away by his son,—"That we had shot all our money away in champagne, and other useless articles, and now we have no money;" and again—"The stores were full of merchandise, which had better never have been imported; articles of folly and luxury, which had better have been sunk, than brought into this Colony: carriages, bottled porter, and champagne. They might, he considered, be looked upon as absolute loss."

We think that the passing of such resolutions by the Council is calculated to do great injury. There are many respectable persons in this Colony who have been induced, by the highly coloured statements made of the advantages likely to result from emigrating to this country, to come here, and who have been brought out as bounty Emigrants: it is not pleasant to their feelings to be told by the lowest of the low, who will give the resolution of the Council as their authority, that the money paid for their passage has ruined the country. What must be thought of the Colony in other places—of a Colony which consumes more British manufactured goods than all Russia—that imported last year more than £2,500,000 worth of goods—to learn that it has been "exhausted" by an annual payment for five years, of £166,118?

With the eleventh resolution we entirely concur, that it is desirable that all ships which bring emigrants should be conducted on Temperance (that is, Total Abstinence) principles.

In order, however, effectually to meet the cause of the present distress, the following resolution, we feel persuaded, should have been added, viz:—

No. 14. That, as it appears from the clearest evidence, furnished by the members of this Government, and borne out by the experience of every member of this Council, that intoxicating drinks have drained the Colony of a vast amount of money, and have thus brought this infant community into serious difficulties; it likewise appears, that a very large expenditure is caused yearly for the coercion of criminals; that a vast quantity of labour is lost yearly; and that the morals of the Emigrants have been deteriorated by the same means. This Council would especially recommend, that a bill be brought into the Imperial Parliament to prevent the sale of intoxicating drinks in this Colony; the most cogent appeals having been made to those engaged in this demoralizing and destructive traffic, to relinquish their business, without producing any effect; we are therefore convinced, that nothing will restrain them but the strong arm of the law; and, as it is not in the power of this Council to pass such a law, we recommend this, which may be considered an extreme measure, from the conviction, that no other will meet the circumstances of the case.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Teetotaler.

September 12, 1842.

SIR,—On Thursday last, a meeting of the Smithfield Total Abstinence Society was held at Mr. Ranshaw's Eating House, Smithfield Market Place.

We had a good assembly; Mr. Joseph Kenyon very kindly came forward and took the Chair, and addressed the meeting at some length, and called upon every individual to come forward and assist in the great enterprise in which we are embarked, in a very powerful speech. After which, the meeting was very ably addressed by Messrs. Staff and Burge, from Parramatta, who very kindly paid us a visit on the occasion, and we humbly beg to return our sincere thanks to those gentlemen for their kindness in assisting at the meeting, which was also addressed by Messrs. Woodall Ranshaw, and Jeffries. Our worthy chairman, Mr. Kenyon, allowed all the men on his farm to attend the meeting, both bond and free. I think, Sir, this conduct is worthy of imitation by his neighbours in this part of the Colony. And at the conclusion of the meeting, five

pledges were obtained, and when we take into consideration the short time that Smithfield has been inhabited, this is encouraging. I beg to remark, that the same evening the members of the Smithfield Society sat down to tea together at Mr. Ranshaw's Eating House, and we all spent the evening very comfortably together, and each member retired to his home well satisfied with the manner in which the day had been spent.

We have four more subscribers to your Paper.

I beg to subscribe myself,
Your obedient humble servant,
WILLIAM HUNT, Secretary

To the Editor of the Teetotaler.

Sydney, September 10, 1842.

SIR,—In the outline of the speech which I delivered at the Anniversary of the Total Abstinence Society, as given in your last number, your reporter makes me to say—"Many cases which had occurred, were of the most affecting nature, as narrated by Mr. Buckingham, who had for a long time resided with them." The closing member of this sentence is altogether a mistake of the reporter, Mr. Buckingham never resided with the Indians at all, and travelled in America only about three years. The gentleman to whom I particularly referred, was Mr. Catlin, who has travelled extensively among the Indian tribes, and has communicated more accurate and extensive information respecting them, than any other living author.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
M. T. ADAM.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

ACCIDENT.—About eleven o'clock on Saturday morning a person named Chiers, who had recently arrived from the M'Leay, was riding up George-street, and in endeavouring to avoid a light cart which was coming down the street in an opposite direction, he turned the horse sharply round, when the chest of the animal came in contact with the shaft of the cart, which entered its body, inflicting a wound about six or seven inches in depth. Mr. Chiers immediately sprang off, and the horse was led from opposite the Police Office, down to the corner of Market-street, where it fell, and in about ten minutes afterwards expired, after vomiting a considerable quantity of blood. No blame whatever could be attached to the carter, as the accident occurred from Mr. Chiers trying to cross in front of the cart, and there not being sufficient room.

POLICE BUSINESS.—There were twenty-four charges for drunkenness heard at the Police Court on Monday. All the parties were convicted; eight paid 11s. each, two were sentenced a couple of hours to the stocks, eight were sentenced twelve hours to the treadmill, two were sentenced each twenty-four hours to the same place; John Crawford, for repeated drunkenness, was ordered to be worked thirty-six hours on the mill; John Ward, for the fifth offence within twelve months, was sentenced to the mill for the benefit of the public, for sixty hours; and Patrick Aderine having been seven times convicted, was ordered to work eighty-four hours on the mill; Jane Ball having been twelve times convicted of drunkenness within the year, was sentenced to 144 hours to the cells. The charges on the general list were as follow:—breaches of peace, three; stealing, three charges; gambling in the streets, three; riding on drays, two; picking pockets, one; assault, one; deserting from H. M. S. Favorite, one; discharging fire-arms in the street, one; absconding from hired service, one; common prostitutes, two.

BOAT UPSET.—A small boat, during the boat race, was upset in the stream on Monday. The persons on board, we are happy to state, were immediately picked up, suffering no further harm than a good ducking.

FLOWER SHOW.—The first Flower and Horticultural Show of the season will be held this day in the A wing of the Market Buildings, George-street. The display, no doubt, will be a good one.

AUSTRALIAN TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.—The usual meeting of this Society was held on Thursday evening, the School of Arts was crowded. The President, Mr. John Neale, in the Chair. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. H. Morton, Hollivell, Howitt, Driscoll, Carruthers, White, Dr. Whittell, and the Rev. M. T. Adam. At the conclusion, 76 pledges were obtained.

AUSTRALIAN TOTAL ABSTINENCE BENEFIT SOCIETY.—At a monthly meeting of this society, held at the Temperance Coffee House, Pitt-street, on Monday evening, 5th instant, 13 members were admitted, and 16 were proposed for admittance next month. There were 217 members enrolled previous to the last election. The monthly subscriptions, entrance money, &c. taken amounted to £27 0s. 10d. The funds of the society in the bank are £267 4s.

GAMBLING.—Three lads named Henry Egan, Michael Cluskey, and James Roach, were brought before the Police Bench on Monday, on the charge of having been found in the act of gambling with half-pence on the Surry Hills on the previous evening, and were each ordered to find sureties for their good behaviour during the next twelve months. The height to which this evil has of late arisen among the juvenile classes, is really alarming, and calls loudly for the exercise of superior vigilance on the part of the Police, in order if possible, to put a stop to it, which the system of ordering the delinquents to find bail for their good behaviour, appears as likely to do as any other measure we can think of; for besides the pecuniary responsibility which parents are thus subjected to, the mere cost of five shillings, which is in all cases paid for the bond, will greatly tend to impress them more conclusively with the necessity of keeping a sharp eye upon the young scrape-graces under their charge. It would, perhaps, however, be better if a good system of education was introduced into the colony.

BERRIMA AND BATHURST CIRCUIT COURTS.—One of Mr. Justice Stephen's family having been suddenly indisposed, His Honor has been obliged to relinquish the Berrima Circuit this Assizes; Mr. Justice Burton accordingly left town on Monday morning for Berrima, and Mr. Justice Stephen will proceed to Bathurst. The Court opened at Berrima to-day, and will open at Bathurst on Monday, the 26th instant.

INQUESTS.—During the month of August, only eight inquests were held in Sydney, being nine less than in the month of July, and out of this number we are glad to say, only one death was proved to have been caused by drunkenness. This speaks well for the cause of temperance, as the generality of inquests hitherto have been held upon persons who either directly or indirectly met their deaths in consequence of intemperance. The following were the verdicts recorded in the eight cases above mentioned—visitation of God, three; still-born, one; accidental drowning, one; accidental death, two; *felo de se*, one.

A FACT.—A person residing in Sydney, lately had a dispute with a publican, and he talked of going to law to recover his claim if not paid. A by-stander said—It is of no use your going to law with him, for law costs him nothing, he pays ———, who is considered the best Police Office lawyer in the Colony, so much a year to appear for him in all actions.

PARRAMATTA POLICE OFFICE.—Humphrey Thorn was brought before the bench, charged with being drunk and disorderly in St. John's Church, on Sunday, the 21st ultimo. He was found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of forty shillings, and five shillings cost, or to be confined in the cells 120 hours. This being the fifth offence, the Police Magistrate reproved him very severely for his conduct: he spoke to him of the sin of entering God's presence in a state of drunkenness, and next, on the miserable state into which he had brought himself and family, by an habitual course of intemperance. This man, who was a short time ago, independant in his circumstances, is now an insolvent; he has by his conduct, reduced an excellent wife, and two fine children, to a state of destitution. Although it was generally known that he wasted his substance, as stated above, yet he has obtained the benefit of the Insolvent Act.