

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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NOTICE.

At the request of a great many Subscribers, and for the convenience of the persons who reside in the country, it has been decided that the day of publication of this Journal, shall be altered from Saturday to Wednesday. The next number will therefore be issued on Wednesday week.

TRAGEDY.

All the world's a stage,
And all the men and women, players.

The sentiment expressed by Shakspeare in these lines is undoubtedly correct, and one of the pieces now performing is the Drama of Intemperance. In this Drama, there are both tragic and comic scenes; but tragedy has vastly preponderated here within the last few weeks. We will enumerate a few of the tragic scenes which have been passing before us: one man has been sentenced to be confined two years in Sydney Gaol, for an assault committed while in a state of intoxication.

Another has been sentenced to three years' hard labour for stealing a horse, while in a state of intoxication.

Another has been sentenced to be transported for life for killing the woman who lived with him as if she were his wife, while in a state of intoxication.

A publican has been sentenced to be transported for fourteen years for killing a man on the Liverpool Road, while in a state of intoxication.

A man was so severely burned a short time ago, in consequence of a burning tree falling on him, that he died of the injuries he received: he laid down at the root of the burning tree, while in a state of intoxication.

A soldier was so severely beaten on the 9th instant, while in a public house, that he has since died of the wounds which he received.

Those tragic scenes have attracted the notice of the authorities, and all agree that something must be done to put a stop to the awful vice of Intemperance.

We have great pleasure in transferring to our columns the admirable speech of the Chief Justice, when passing sentence on the publican Kerr. These are not the sentiments of an enthusiastic teetotaler, but the opinions of the highest judicial authority in the land; and they are worthy of an attentive perusal:—

James Kerr, you are to receive the judgment of this Court, having been found guilty of feloniously killing and slaying William Frost, otherwise Jones.

A jury of intelligent citizens, many of whom were not only of the same rank, but of the same vocation in life with yourself, felt themselves constrained by the weight of the evidence to find you guilty. Their verdict is satisfactory to the Court. Everything that zealous counsel, learned in the law, could do, was done in your behalf, to persuade the jury that the death of the miserable man, whose life was so suddenly cut short, arose from pure *misadventure*. The verdict of the jury negatives that conclusion, they doubtless gave full credit to the testimony of the witness Scott, and believing it as I do to be true, and coupling it with other indisputable circumstances in the case, it exhibits another lamentable indication of the utter recklessness of human life which is fearfully engendered in this colony by demoniacal habits of intemperance.

Your case is, however, marked by circumstances of high aggravation. Your hand ministered the maddening poison to the deceased—and drinking of the same cup, you placed yourself and your victim on the same level of brutal abandonment. But this is not all. The detestable vice of gambling was added, and seemed indeed but the forerunner of that prostration of reason which ended in the tragedy of the 9th April.

The facts proved on your trial, must, in the judgment of all dispassionate persons, who heard them detailed, disentitle your conduct to any very lenient consideration. What topic could reasonably be urged in favour of a licensed publican, instead of ministering to the reasonable refreshment of the wayfaring tra-

veller, decoying his guests by gambling into the indulgence of another vice in its train, bringing the fearful crime of blood-guiltiness? It may be, that such scenes of profligate debauchery, of which your house was the den on the day in question, are not of frequent occurrence in the road-side inns of the colony; but there is too much reason to fear that much of the robbery of masters by their servants is cherished, and the reckless plunder of workmen of their hard earnings, notoriously perpetrated, by the temptation to profligate drunkenness, held out in these hospitiiums of intemperance.

I have fully communicated with my brother Judges on the circumstances of your case, and they confer with me in thinking that it is one which demands a severe example.

It is not the ordinary and but too common case of drunken men quarrelling with each other, and working themselves up to utter carelessness of life, but that of a publican, himself the guilty mover in that cause of excitement, which has ended so fatally. In your conduct there was something of deliberation. The entering of the house for the gun, and the exclamation, that if the deceased did not come back, you would bring him back; and your subsequent threat to Scott, that if he meddled, you would serve him in like manner, are circumstances which would seem to gainsay the high character for peaceableness and humanity, given to you by the witnesses.

In every view of your case, it is one which demands exemplary punishment, and involving a solemn warning to licensed dealers in that liquid fire which consumes the sentient faculties, and leads its victims on until it levels them to the grade of vicious animals of the desert.

A petition, numerously signed, and even by the jury who pronounced you guilty, has recommended you to mercy. The Judges have a solemn duty to perform as conservators of the justice of the country, and however agreeable it might be to them in discharging their high functions, to yield to the dictates of human sympathy, yet they cannot shrink from the stern demands of justice, in a case where the interests of the community in which we live require a warning example.

Giving full effect to every topic which could be urged in your behalf, the Court, after deliberate consideration of the whole case, is bound to award that sentence which public justice demands—and that sentence is, that you be transported for fourteen years.

THE REVENUE.

The Abstract of the Revenue of the Colony of New South Wales, (exclusively of the district of Port Phillip,) for the quarter ending 30th June, was published in the 'Government Gazette' of Tuesday. The increase of the ordinary revenue over the corresponding quarter of last year, has been £3625 0s. 10d. This the Editor of the 'Herald,' considers a pleasing circumstance. We will give some of the items on which the increase has taken place, in order to see whether this circumstance is calculated to give much pleasure.

	£	s.	d.
Increase on the duty on Imported Spirits	1000	5	4
“ “ Tobacco	2643	19	3
“ On the Licenses to Retail Spirituous Liquors	1027	15	8
	4572	0	3
Deduct decrease on the duty on Spirits distilled in the colony	394	4	6
	4177	15	9

There is on the duty on all other articles adequacy; but on Spirits, licenses to retail the same, and Tobacco, there is a great increase. The whole amount of the ordinary revenue, is, £87,882 0s. 9d.

Duties on Spirits imported	28,957	18	4
Duties on Spirits distilled in the colony	2,387	9	0
Duties on Tobacco imported	11,536	7	9
Licenses to retail Spirituous Liquors	13,863	5	8
	66,745	0	9

The whole revenue	87,882	0	9
Duties on Spirits and Tobacco	66,745	0	9
Revenue from all other sources	31,637	0	0

This is at the rate of 25,000 per annum more than the loan the merchants were desirous of negotiating a short time ago with the Government, to relieve them from their embarrassments.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE REV. M. T. ADAM.

Sir,—I have taken the liberty of asking you, through the medium of the 'Teetotaler,' whether you have at any time said "that if four glasses of wine will make a man drunk, two glasses will make him half-drunk;" so that a man who drinks two glasses is half a drunkard?

I am, &c.,
A TEETOTALLER.

To the Editor of the Teetotaler.

Sydney, July 20th 1842.

Sir,—At the request of the Total Abstinence Society I proceeded to Newcastle on Friday evening last, for the purpose of forming a similar society in that town. Wishing to secure the most eligible place in which to hold the public meeting, I applied to His Honor Mr. Justice Stephen for an introduction to the Police Magistrate, which was very readily given. In the letter which His Honor gave me, he had the kindness to say, that "He believed a well supported Teetotal Society in Newcastle, would do more to keep the peace of that town, than a whole army of constables." On my application to Major Crumner, the Police Magistrate, he said that he highly approved of the object, and immediately granted the use of the Court House.

As I was desirous of commencing the Society under the most favourable auspices, I therefore wished to get one of the most influential gentlemen of the town to take the chair. In accordance with this purpose, I requested Major Crumner to do me this honour. That gentleman, however, declined, upon the ground of his not being in the habit of public speaking: he thought it would better become the Clergyman. Upon this suggestion, I went to the Clergyman, but he could not give his sanction to such an innovation upon what he considers the Scriptural means of accomplishing a moral object; but thought the Doctor would not object. I next went to the Doctor: he fully accorded in all that could be said in support of the object to be attained, but not being himself a pledged Teetotaler, "prayed me to have him excused." I heard of another gentleman—the Esquire—and made bold to solicit his good offices; but he had made up his mind, that all secret societies must be bad—that the Gospel was the only legitimate means of accomplishing the object we had in view, and therefore could give me no countenance. At length, being nothing discouraged by these refusals, I succeeded in getting a gentleman, one of the overseers of the Newcastle Collieries, to preside, who was himself a pledged Teetotaler.

Having previously posted hand-bills through the town, and after these efforts, succeeded in providing a chairman, on Monday evening we held a public meeting. The weather was very unfavourable, but a good number of persons, supposed to be about two hundred, attended, who listened with the deepest attention for near two hours, while I endeavoured to shew them that a remedy for intemperance was loudly called for; and also, to prove that Total Abstinence from all intoxicating drinks is a remedy at once efficient, safe, economical, and wherever tried, successful.

The chair was taken by Mr Graham, and the following resolutions were passed:—

Moved by Mr. W. Currey, and seconded by Mr. Field:

1. That a Society be formed, to be called the "Newcastle Branch of the Australian Total Abstinence Society."

Moved by Mr. MacGraw, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Smith:

2. That the following persons be the office-bearers for the coming year:—Treasurer, Mr. Thrum; Secretary, Mr. Graham; Committee, Messrs. MacGraw, Scott, MacNorton, Thompson, and Owen, with power to add to their number.

After which, thirty persons took the pledge, and among them several of the most noted drunkards in the town, both male and female. The owner of the public-house where the soldier was killed, said that if the publican would give back the lease of the building, it should never be occupied as a public-house any more. There were eight persons who had signed a paper before, binding themselves to the principles of the Society. So that I had the pleasure to see, at the close of this meeting, a Total Abstinence Society formed in Newcastle, consisting of thirty-eight members; and left in the hands of such men as have taken the offices assigned to them, I doubt not will prove eminently successful.

I cannot close this account without expressing a hope, that this is only the commencement of an effort which shall be brought to bear upon every part of this colony. The scenes of murder, devastation and death that have recently passed before us, call loudly in our ears. And if any ask, What can we do? the answer is ready, only lend us a little pecuniary aid, and we pledge ourselves, that in a short time every town and hamlet in the colony shall have a similar Society in active operation among them.

W. CURREY.

NEWCASTLE.

Last Saturday week, a corporal of Her Majesty's 99th Regiment having gone in a state of intoxication into a night auction, held at Groves' hotel, some of the persons present knocked his hat over his eyes; upon which a fight commenced. The man was dreadfully beaten, and has since died from the wounds he received. A Coroner's inquest has been held on the body, and a verdict of wilful murder against some persons unknown, returned. This is the second person killed in this public-house, within a few months. The public-houses in Newcastle are kept open all day on Sunday. The authorities are not so strict as in Sydney.

July 16th. A soldier was flogged, in pursuance of the orders of a court martial, for insolence to his officer while under the influence of liquor. "Soldiers in this country should be very obedient to the orders of their officers, as their commands are always intended for their good." Government should stop the rum rations, if they expect obedience to orders, prisoners properly looked after, or any other duty to be properly performed.

A FACT.—On Thursday last, a man residing in this town, went on board a vessel and became intoxicated. He quarrelled with the Captain and came on shore; with the indecision characteristic of a man under the influence of liquor; he attempted to return on board, in so doing he fell off the plank which connected the vessel with the shore. If he had not been a powerful swimmer, he would in all probability, have been drowned. He then went home and quarrelled with his wife; in the scuffle which ensued between them, he fell against the door, his head coming in contact with the key, his eye was knocked completely out of its socket.

NUMBER OF DRUNKARDS DURING THE WEEK AT THE POLICE OFFICE.

	Drunkness.	Drunk, with other Charges.
Saturday	3	2
Monday	13	1
Tuesday	11	5
Wednesday	12	3
Thursday	6	5
Friday	6	4
	51	20
Drunkness	51	
Drunk, with other charges		20
Water Police Court		10
	Total	81

There are in Sydney, 35,000 inhabitants. The instruction from the Superintendent to the Police, is, to take no person on a charge of drunkenness, except they are disorderly likewise; if they are quiet, the Police are to see them to their residence.

POETRY.

ASPIRATIONS OF YOUTH.

Higher, higher will we climb
Up the mount of glory,
That our names may live through time
In our country's story;
Happy, when her welfare calls,
He who conquers, he who falls.
Deeper, deeper let us toil
In the mines of knowledge—
Nature's wealth and learnings spoil
Win from school and college;
Delve we there for richer gems
Than the stars of diadems.
Onward, onward will we press
Through the path of duty;
Virtue is true happiness,
Excellence true beauty:
Minds are of supernal birth,
Let us make a heaven of earth.
Close and closer then we knit
Hearts and hands together,
Where our fire-side comforts sit
In the wildest weather:
Oh! they wander wide, who roam,
For the joys of life from home.
Nearer, dearer bands of love
Draw our souls in union,
To our Father's house above,
To the saint's communion;
Thither every hope ascend,
There may all our labours end.

THE DRUNKARD.

[CONCLUDED.]

It is now time to speak of my poor wife and children. From time to time, during the progress of the scenes I have just been sketching, Amelia had been strongly urged by her friends to leave me, but she always mildly, yet peremptorily, refused. 'My lot,' would she say, 'was of my own choosing; and whatever it may be, I have made up my mind to bear it to the end.' Even this devotion did not touch my heart. On the contrary, I taunted her with her ridiculous attachment; and scarcely a day passed that I did not ask her, with gross barbarity, why she did not go to her friends. I did not want her company—not I; nay, I wished to get rid of it, and never see her face again. I found fault with her domestic economy; reproached her with not keeping her children decent; with being a slut in her own person, though she was neatness itself; with being ugly, disagreeable, stupid, tiresome, a millstone about my neck, the bane of my life, and the cause of all my misery. What will a good wife not submit to?—she bore it all.

If there ever was a lost, hopelessly, irrevocably lost being in this world, it was myself. I was dunned for money I could not pay. I was shunned by my neighbours; my servants left me as one it was a disgrace to serve; and even the sots of the neighbourhood disdained to drink with me, because, as they said, 'a gentleman ought to be ashamed to make a beast of himself.' Though I literally lived without food, I had become a bloated mass of physical inanition. My hands shook; my face was swelled and livid. Then my mental tortures!—But they are past all description. The reader will think this was bad enough, but as yet he has seen nothing. The tragedy is still to be exhibited.

One day—it was an ominous day—the anniversary of our marriage—in a fit of savage hilarity I declared I would celebrate it with more than usual splendour. I got up at twelve on the preceding night, and intoxicated myself before sunrise, when I went to bed and slept myself partly sober again before dinner. At dinner I again drank deeply. I proposed a toast—'Our wedding-day, and many happy returns of it.' A sudden pang seemed to cross my poor wife's mind, and produce a train of bitter recollections. 'Was it not a happy day, Amelia?' said I, tauntingly. She burst into tears, and covered her face with her hands for a minute; then slowly removing them, she replied, with a look of agony that still haunts me day and night, 'Yes, it was a happy day—but—' The tone and look irritated my already infuriated spirit. 'But what, replied I—'Come, speak out—let us have no secrets on this happy day.' 'We have paid dearly for it,' she said—'You with the loss of fortune, fame, and goodness. I with a broken heart and a shattered reason.'

'And I alone am to blame for all this, I suppose.'
'No; I blame nothing but my own folly. I had my warnings, but they came too late, or rather, as my conscience tells me, I shut my ears to them. Would I had died,' added she, writhing her hands, 'before that miserable day!'

'You are no longer the gay, sprightly, animated, witty thing that won my heart,' said I.

'Your heart!' replied she scornfully; 'but who was it that robbed me of my gaiety; that worried my sickened soul by night and day; that has broken my heart, and turned my brain? Do you know the man, the monster I would say? Her eyes now flashed fire as she continued—'Do you know the monster, I say?—he who deceived my youth, wasted my fortune, destroyed my happiness, degraded the modesty of my sex and station, and heaped coals of fire on the heads of my children?—who rendered the past a recollection of horror, the present yet worse—the future—O my God.'

'I, whom you promised to love and obey all your life. Come, give me an example of obedience,' cried I, pouring out a glass of filthy liquor; 'come—one bumper more: I swear you shall drink one bumper more to this happy day—come!'

'I will not!'

I rose, and staggering to the other side of the table, where she was sitting, vehemently protested she should drink it.

'I will not!' she again replied.
Who shall answer for the actions of a man mad with drink! A struggle now ensued, during which I became irritated into fury. The children clung affrighted about us, but I kicked them away. My poor Amelia at length struck the glass out of my hand; I became furious as a demon, and threw her from me with a diabolical force, against the corner of the fireplace. She fell, raised herself half up, gave her children one look and me another, and sunk down again.—She was dead.

I am now the sober tenant of a madhouse. The jury that tried me would not believe, that a man who

acted such scenes as were proved upon me, could be in his senses. They acquitted me on the score of insanity. My relatives placed me here to pass the rest of my days, and recover my senses if I can. But I am not mad. I live, in the full horrible perception of my past wickedness. I know not what is become of my children, for no one will answer my inquiries—no one will tell me where they are, or whether they are dead or alive. All I can understand is, that I shall never see them more. My constant companion day and night, walking or dreaming, is my murdered wife. Every moment of my life is spent in recalling to my mind the history of that ill-fated girl, and in summing up what I have to answer for to her, her friends, and her offspring. Denied the indulgence of all sorts of stimulants, my strength is gone; my body shrunk and shrivelled almost to a skeleton, and my limbs quake with the least exertion. Guilt grins me in the face; infamy barks at my heels; scorn points her finger at me; disease is gnawing at my vitals; death already touches me with his icy fingers; and eternity waits to swallow me up.

The man to whose charge I am committed has furnished me with the means of fulfilling this my last task, and making the only atonement in my power for what I have done. If there be any one who shall read this, to whom temptation may beckon afar off, at a distance which disguises its deformity, let him contemplate me as I entered on the stage of life; as I pursued my career forward; as I closed, or am about to close it for ever. Let him not cheat his soul; let him not for a moment believe that it is impossible for him to become as bad, nay, worse than I have been.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

SUPREME COURT.—CRIMINAL SIDE.

WEDNESDAY.

Before Mr. Justice Burton.

John Turnbull, late of Pitt Town, was convicted of fraudulent insolvency, in having removed a quantity of property which he had returned in his schedule as his property.

The prisoner was sentenced to be imprisoned, and kept to hard labour for two years.

THURSDAY.

Before the Chief Justice.

James Kerr was placed at the bar to take his trial for murder.

The Attorney-General, in opening the case, observed that in the fulfilment of his duty in the absence of a grand jury, he had considered it right to put the prisoner on his trial for murder, although the coroner's jury had returned a verdict of manslaughter. The learned gentleman then proceeded to state the case, as detailed by the several witnesses.

James Nixon, a licensed hawk, deposed, that on the 9th of April last, he was at the prisoner's house on the Liverpool Road. It was between twelve and one o'clock in the day. Saw some bullock drivers there. Prisoner and one of the bullock-drivers began betting for shillings, and from that to half-a-crown. After they had done betting, they began tossing for shillings. The deceased was intoxicated, and tumbled over witness's goods. The prisoner was perfectly sober.

Charles Scott deposed, that he lived with his brother, and drove a team. Knew the prisoner, and knew also the deceased, Scott, alias Frost. Saw him last on the 9th April. Witness fell into company with him on a Friday night; arrived at Kerr's house on the Saturday morning about nine o'clock. Prisoner bought a bundle of hay off deceased's cart, and brought in four glasses of liquor. Deceased said he did not sell his hay for liquor, but for two shillings. They then said they would toss for the liquor, and began gambling. We had several glasses of warm punch. When we went to breakfast there was a dispute between deceased and prisoner. Deceased told prisoner that he owed him half-a-crown; and prisoner said deceased owed him eighteen pence for the breakfast. Deceased went out, and prisoner followed him, saying that if deceased did not come back, he (prisoner) would bring him back. Saw prisoner go into his room and get the gun. Was standing at the bar when he heard the report of the gun. Better than a minute elapsed between prisoner going out, and the time of the report. Prisoner then came in, and witness asked him if he had shot the man. Prisoner answered, 'If he (witness) did not take care, he would serve him the same way.' The deceased was lying dead near his bullocks. Blood was flowing from his left side. I remained there till Monday. The constable would not let us go away.

Cross-examined:—I had taken three glasses of liquor, and was not drunk; my mate was drunk. After prisoner went out I heard high words; but did not hear what words. Prisoner threatened to serve him (witness) in the same way; after witness had laid hold of him to get the gun away, prisoner appeared pale and agitated.

Thomas Pinkney gave similar evidence to that of Scott, except that he did not hear prisoner say anything when he went out with the gun. This witness said, he saw the prisoner take the gun out; although in his deposition, taken soon after the event, he said he did not see the prisoner take the gun out.

Eliza Hewitt, and Maria Isaacs, opposite neighbours to the prisoner, said they heard high words on the day in question between him and deceased; the parties were close enough to handle each other when the gun went off. One of these parties had heard the prisoner cry, 'Keep off, keep off from the gun.'

Constable Higgins stated, that he was sent for after the death of Jones, and found him lying near the garden fence. Witness said to prisoner 'This is a sad accident;' and prisoner answered, 'I wish it was me instead of the man. I have sent for a constable, but as you are one, I give myself up to you.'

Mr. Thomas Johnston, a surgeon, described the wound, and showed that the deceased had met his death by the discharge of a gun of some kind.

This was the case for the prosecution.

For the defence, Robert Wishart deposed, that he was a turnkey at Parhamatta Gaol; had been a non-commissioned officer in the 28th Regiment, and left it at his own request; remembered the Homebush Races, which took place some time before Jones's death; the prisoner was absent at the races that day; witness took a gun from a room in the house, and seeing it was uncharged and dirty, he loaded and cleaned it, and put it in the bar, against a cask and the wall; this was four or five days before Jones's death; never saw the prisoner handle a gun or firearms of any kind, and had known him for years; re-

membered Jones's death; did not believe prisoner knew of the gun being loaded; witness had not told him, and did not know in what manner he could have become acquainted with the fact of its being loaded; a few seconds before the shot being fired, saw Kerr go out; he had not then any gun with him; there was not time between the witness first going out and the firing of the shot for prisoner to come back and get the gun; after the shot, prisoner came in pale and ghastly, the first thing he said was, 'Surely the man is dead, but it was all his own fault;' never heard him say he was sorry for anything he had done; never heard prisoner say, (although witness was quite close enough to hear), 'If you don't come back, I'll bring you back.' This witness was cross-examined at some length by the Attorney-General, but without disturbing his testimony.

The Attorney-General replied on the prisoner's case, contending, that his counsel had entirely failed to make out a case of misadventure from the evidence; and that the Jury must either find the prisoner guilty of murder or manslaughter.

His Honor summed up the evidence, directing the Jury, that if they believed the prisoner had taken out the gun with the intention of compelling the prisoner to pay for his breakfast, or for any other threatening purpose, and death accidentally ensued, the prisoner would be guilty of manslaughter; if, on the other hand, the deceased had himself taken out the gun, and the prisoner merely followed to recover his own property, the affair would be one of misadventure. His Honor thought, that from the effect of the evidence generally, the Jury must dismiss from their minds the charge of murder, and pronounce by their verdict whether the prisoner was guilty of manslaughter or not.

The Jury, after being out of Court about five minutes, returned a verdict of manslaughter.

Before Mr. Justice Stephen.

T. H. Von Goebert was placed on the floor of the Court to take his trial for perjury.

The perjury was alleged to have been committed on the 24th of February last, at the Police Office, under the following circumstances. As it appeared in the evidence, Goebert, a constable in the Water Police, had taken a man on a charge of drunkenness, and was conveying him to the watchhouse. He resisted violently and collected a mob around him, (a very easy matter in Gloucester-street, better known as the Rocks.) Mr. Cohen, a jeweller in George-street, and his friend, had been on board of the 'Renown,' to see some wool packed; while there, they had some brandy and water; they left the vessel at seven o'clock. They called in at Mrs. Bryne's public house, and had just got a glass of liquor, when they heard the noise, and ran out. Mr. Cohen interfered, and said, if the man had done anything wrong, he would assist Goebert in taking him to the watchhouse. The man was not only drunk, and Cohen told Goebert that he was not complying with Mr. Miles' orders in taking a man to the watchhouse for being drunk. In the disturbance, the man got off. The next morning, Mr. Goebert preferred a charge against Mr. Joel John Cohen, for obstructing him in the execution of his duty. During the examination at the Police Office in support of the charge, Goebert swore that Cohen had struck him on the shoulder, or struck at him at the time in question.

Mr. Cohen was tried for obstructing the constable in the execution of his duty, at the last Court of Quarter Sessions, and acquitted. He now preferred a charge of perjury against Goebert. The trial lasted until a quarter to twelve, a great deal of contradictory evidence was brought forward, and long speeches made by Counsel on each side. The jury, without leaving the box, returned a verdict of not guilty. Captain Browne, the Superintendent of Water Police, has headed a subscription list to defray Goebert's expenses, with a donation of £5.

TEETOTAL SOCIETY, LAUNCESTON.

The usual meeting of this Society was held in the Infant School-room on Tuesday evening. The room was more crowded than on any previous occasion, and the newly organized teetotal band was in attendance. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Stanley, Gillan, Nash, Tyson, Price, and Marshall. Mr. Price, in alluding to Mr. West's lecture on the 'Progress of Society,' expressed his surprise that no allusion was made to the advance of teetotalism. At the conclusion of the meeting about sixteen signed the pledge, the band appropriately playing the 'prodigal's return.' The meetings of this Society are held every fortnight, like those of the Mechanics' Institute. Surely some arrangements might be made to prevent these meetings from clashing together? As both societies are principally intended for the benefit of mechanics and labouring men, there is much lost by holding their meetings on the same night. There can be no doubt that many people attended the teetotal meeting on Tuesday, who would have been present at Mr. West's lecture, had it not fallen on the same evening. This should be remedied.—*L. Advert.*

MELBOURNE TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society which, though established so recently as February last, already contains fifty members, was held in the Scots' School House on Wednesday evening. The attendance was not so numerous as was expected, owing to the threatening appearance of the weather; but the whole business of the meeting was conducted with much spirit, each of the several speakers warmly advocating the cause of total abstinence, and expressing their determination unceasingly to press upon the community the necessity of embracing, and steadily adhering to, those principles by which they were governed.—*Launceston Advertiser.*

FATHER MATHEW.

The Apostle of Temperance, on his way to and on his return from Kiltrush, was received, with marked testimonials of enthusiastic regard at Glin and Tarbert. At Glin the Knight had the castle colours hoisted from the ramparts, and salutes fired; and at Tarbert salutes were fired from the lighthouse. The Apostle returned to this city by the steamer on Wednesday evening, and was accompanied by the Very Rev. Mr. Kenny, P.P. of Kiltrush. He administered the pledge to about two hundred persons at Moore's hotel, and left yesterday morning for Cork. We are happy to add, that his health was never better, and that his spirits were never more buoyant. On Tuesday he commenced to administer the pledge in Kiltrush; he continued, with only about one hour's interruption, to receive all those who came until about five o'clock (not less than three thousand were enrolled during the day). Protestants and Catholics, rich and poor, old and young, came in promiscuous groups before him. He was particular and pointed in forbidding cordials and raspberry compounds; for their seductive influence would soon again be the ruin of the dupes who would spend their money on such contemptible deceits.

About dusk bonfires, tar-barrels, and torches began to flicker in every quarter of the town, and would seem in playful rivalry to mimic the starry twinklings of the cloudless canopy that was spread above. Instantly general illuminations completed the brilliant scene—shots fired about 60 per minute—two bands, relieving each other, played for hours the most national airs. The assembled thousands the Apostle addressed from the window—expressing his acknowledgments and the high opinion he entertained of Kiltrush, that it was the first flower of teetotalism—that they could plainly see how real cheer is the child of temperance, &c. Very Rev. Mr. Kenny, Mr. Meeham, and Rev. Mr. Moran being called for, dwelt for a long time on the pledge, which is now become a fixed system, and the strongest lever in the moral machine.—*Freeman's Journal.*

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Teetotaler.

Launceston, June 30, 1842.

SIR,—I am glad to say that your papers came correctly this time, and also that they afford us a treat, as we had a meeting on Wednesday last, and several portions were read to the audience. As we are rather deficient in good speakers, they afforded us an extra half hour's amusement and instruction. We have made rapid strides since I wrote last; we are considerably above two hundred now, although our population is only about one-sixth of yours. We have enrolled more than fifty new members in the last fortnight, amongst whom is the young man I spoke of in my last as having opposed us, as also Mr. Price, the Independent minister of this town. I regret that our opponents do not come boldly forward, they snarl and snap at a respectful distance, but dare not come to the point, neither upon the platform, nor in the columns of our newspapers. They vex me exceedingly, for as soon as we get the best of them, as we invariably do, they desist for a short time, and then throw out some low, peevish insinuation, which cannot be borne out either by facts or arguments. They cannot argue, they quibble. For instance, one of our Editors this week says 'that our Society, like the Mechanics' Institute, is meant to benefit the lower orders only.' Now teetotalers will feel that a clear cut, and deep; whereas, were I to challenge him to discuss the point, and undertake to prove that the higher classes are in as much need of reformation as any other, and that a radical cure amongst them would have a salutary effect upon those beneath them, he would creep out of it by saying the public were tired of discussion, and that he could not take up his paper with it any longer. We have been served this way by two out of the three publications.

Yours, with respect,

A TEETOTALLER.

To the Editor of the Teetotaler.

Sydney, July 18, 1842.

SIR,—Your valuable exposure of the fallacy of the reasoning of the Salt Provision Political Economists, who have been lately figuring in our Legislative Council, is worthy of all commendation. During seven years ending December, 1841, it would seem that Salt Provisions, amounting to £272,400, were imported into this Colony; and our debit to the countries from which they came, was that, and no more. But, in order to see how the case really stands between us and these countries, another Return should have been moved for, and produced by some Honorable Member,