

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

SIR; I must apologise, Mr. Editor, for falling into the prevalent mania—writing to the public; but whether it be owing to the inclemency of the season, the length of the winter, or the want of something else to do, or to some more serious cause, it would be presumptuous for me to investigate, when divines, lawyers, doctors, agriculturists, the new-come emigrant, and the man big with plain common sense, rush unanimously to the columns of the public press. That there is a just cause, some of those insinuate, moralise, draw comparisons; some would remould the constitution, while others extol the press as being a check on the measures of wicked men. That the press is the palladium of all the civil, political and religious rights of an Englishman, we all know and appreciate; that it may be made a good use of, is my most fervent and ardent wish; but I regret that by some men our greatest blessings can be deformed into our greatest curse. I wish, Sir, to advert to an individual, signing himself "W. S.," who eulogises, in an agent-like manner, "the London, Quebec, St. John's and Halifax press," as "establishing truth, investigating measures, and, to use a common phrase, shewing men up," &c. Would he imply, that such is not the case in Prince Edward Island? That truth is relinquished, and that the pernicious tendency of corrupt measures, veiled in false colours, have been circulated to delude the public? This, Sir, is a grave accusation, armed with the poisonous arrow of insinuation, against the characters of some individuals. Is this consistent with the part this gentleman would assume? Beware, "W. S.," lest, in attacking the public character of a party, that which you have attempted to espouse will bear strict investigation; beware lest, in attacking, you oblige us to defend ourselves. Disappointment to us will not make retaliation sweet; but bear in mind, that the softest particles, when brought into collision, can be made to sparkle. In whatever capacity you may stand, as dupe, under-strapper, volunteer or hireling, be cautious to have facts ready, to prove your future assertions.

"W. S." despises equally the character of a community as he does that of an individual; for, in following up his letter, he concludes that we are rebels, because we employ—mind, Mr. Editor—a man, judged and condemned by him alone, because we allow that man £150 per annum, and have refused the addition of £1000 sterling a-year to the Governor's salary, and have voted a congratulatory Address to our youthful Queen. Is it because we allow one individual £150 a-year, that we are to grant £1000 sterling additional to the Governor's salary? This argument is like the general tenor of this worthy's letter, both futile and false; yet, Sir, this complimentary gentleman adduces this as an invective against the House of Assembly, for refusing to entail an additional expense on this already impoverished country. "W. S." must be aware, that the salary of the Governor is larger, in proportion to the revenue, than those of the Governors of the other Colonies; still he would wish £1000 a-year more to be expended for the maintenance of the Governor's dignity. He had much better get some member to bring in a Bill, for the House to pass, rendering any individual liable to be sued, to recover damages, who should dare impugn the dignity of this or any other Governor of Prince Edward Island, rather than be guilty of such an extravagance. I would ask this "argumentative little gentleman" whether the difference between One or Two thousand Pounds will maintain the dignity or moral influence of any man, either as a public or a private character? As the latter, it will be his thoughts, words and deeds; as the former, his well-bestowed patronage, his measures and his government; but should these not reflect credit on him, all the riches in the world will not make his character dignified. "W. S." terminates by quoting the words of Lord Brougham, thanking God that there still existed a House of Lords; so thank I the Lord, that the old proverb of "what's in print is not always true," still remains correct and undenied.

AN ECHO.

* See the Royal Gazette of Tuesday last.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

SIR; In reference to the Stanzas which have appeared in a late number of the Royal Gazette, touching the "memorable Wood Island expedition" the gentleman to whom these elegant lines are meant to apply has much cause of gratitude to the Omniscient, that the magnanimous and immaculate writer is not privy to all his misfortunes or his failings; otherwise he would, doubtless, have manifested the same liberal spirit in making them known, for the edification of the public. He might, however, have well spared himself the trouble of his footnote, as most people in this quarter were beforehand sufficiently acquainted with the circumstance which he is at such laudable pains to explain. His muse must have been sadly at fault, when he was obliged to descend to such low personalities; and, truly, that must be a bad cause, which requires the aid of such wretched arguments for its support.

Three Rivers, 5th April, 1841.

TEMPERANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

"The night is passed, and the day is at hand; let us, therefore, cast off the works of darkness, and put on the armour of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day, not in rioting and drunkenness."—ST. PAUL.

"If a fellow is too lazy to work, he sticks his name over his door, and calls it a tavern; and, in nine cases out of ten, he makes the whole neighbourhood as idle and as worthless as himself!"—SAM SLICK.

SIR;—Having lately seen the rapid progress that Temperance Societies have made throughout the Island, I deem it a duty I owe to my fellow-citizens, to throw what light I can on a subject that involves so much of the well-being of Society. And though it is a subject that has already engaged the ablest pens, and on which the most touching eloquence of the philanthropist has been employed, yet, it is a theme that is far from being exhausted; and as the matter is comparatively novel among us, and as the generality of your readers may not have access to those sources of information to which I allude, I hope the remarks of one who has seen and felt what he describes, may not be unacceptable to many of your readers, how humble soever may be his abilities for the task.

Let us examine Intemperance, as it regards the health, wealth and respectability of individuals, that we may obtain a clearer idea of its baneful effects. It is acknowledged by the best medical authorities, that there is not the least nutritive particle in alcohol; but that, on the contrary, its use tends to enervate and debilitate the system. The stomach is the great laboratory in which

is prepared those nourishing juices that enable the blood to supply the natural waste of the body. Now, it is evident, that any thing taken into it, that does not tend to promote this wise provision of nature, is contrary to the design of our Creator; and when it receives a substance that, instead of nourishing the body, on the contrary, tends to defeat the all-wise arrangement of Providence, it is obviously sinful—and such is alcohol, however small the quantity. Now, it is evident, that if the source be polluted, so will the stream; and who of us that has had the misfortune to take ardent spirits at any time to excess, but knows, that this important organ is the first that suffers by it. Its tender coatings become irritated—hence it refuses to receive its customary aliment; an overflow of bile is the consequence—nausea ensues; and from the sympathy between the stomach and the brain, and consequently with the nerves, a general debility, head-ache, dolor tremens, wakefulness, disturbed imagination, with numerous other evils, follow, as the natural consequence. It is an established fact, that alcohol no more unites with the blood, in the manner of nutritive aliments, than water does with oil or mercury; but that it is carried off by perspiration, and other evacuations, that expel what is injurious to the health of the subject; nor is he ever free from its deleterious effects, until the last particle has exuded from the pores of the body. I advance nothing here but what is dictated by reason and experience, without appealing to Holy Writ.

We shall next consider the pecuniary loss occasioned by drinking ardent spirits. Besides the time actually wasted, while attending the unhallowed orgies of intemperance, there is the money to be paid for it, which, at the present exorbitant price at which liquors are sold, amounts to a very considerable sum annually, even when what is termed moderate drinking only has been indulged in. And for what purpose is this waste of time and money? Solely, by gratifying a depraved and vitiated appetite, to disqualify the besotted victim of intemperance from pursuing any laudable or useful avocation, so long as he continues under its baneful influence. And mark the evils which follow in its train, like cause and effect, and as closely connected as the links of a chain. Duties to God and society neglected—wives and families left to pine in misery and wretchedness—the labour necessary for their maintenance either wholly abandoned, or performed as an almost insupportable task—the wreck of property that remains sacrificed to satisfy the demands of the insatiate and ruthless grog-seller—the natural order of society reversed—the ties of affection rent asunder—the bonds of sacred friendship dissolved, or suffered only to exist in name, while sipping the maddening draught—a phantom that vanishes before the first gust of passion, raised by the cursed stimulus that first formed it—a friendship often extinguished in the blood of one of the inebriates! How often have many of us spent the "mid-night oil" while around the festive board, listening to the voice of hilarity and mirth, and in the delirium of pleasure, in which sober reason was lulled to sleep, we imagined our friendships more closely cemented; ay, that our very souls were united with those whom, before, we but merely esteemed. But the morning sun, in dissipating the fumes of liquor, dissolves also those waking dreams—dispels the ideal visions which, the night before, absorbed our whole being. With how many bitter regrets are many such nights succeeded on the following mornings! How many promises must be violated, or performed at a serious loss! How many secrets are divulged, which else had remained locked up in the recesses of the heart! I only speak of the convivial parties of the better orders of society.

Now, let us take a view of those receptacles of vice, nick-named "taverns," licensed by Government, to retail what they are pleased to call Spirituous Liquors. Can any accurate observer, in his sober senses, who has had occasion to stop at them, say that, in nine cases out of ten, they are not a public nuisance—that to encourage them, is not a fraud practised on the community? The ostensible object of a tavern is to afford proper accommodation to the traveller. Is this the case with a large majority of our taverns? Far from it. The applicant for a tavern license finds a pair of pliant magistrates, who, on inspecting a couple of beds (one of which is often borrowed for the occasion, and the other, that of "mine host"), grant the necessary certificate—a licence is obtained—a puchon of some adulterated trash is procured—and our landlord opens, forthwith, his school of vice in legal form, and, in Sam Slick's phrase, makes such of his visitors as honour him with their custom, as idle and as worthless as himself, save and except those whom his deadly draughts poison outright, or who fall victims to the inclemency of our rigid winters, or some other equally fatal casualty. Am I delineating an ideal scene? Alas! the fearful reality is but too true; and every returning year adds a fresh memento to the long, dark registry of the hapless victims of intemperance! Shame on those who, by their purse and presence, countenance the infernal traffic! With heartfelt sorrow I confess, I, too, have been a liberal contributor to it. How many dawning talents, fitted to ornament society, have been doomed to set for ever, ere they attained their meridian splendour, in the sombre gloom of those unhallowed caverns! How many bereaved widows and orphans may justly call down the vengeance of heaven on the guilty heads of some of those keepers of licensed and unlicensed hells!—and their cry is generally heard, for the drunkard's fate often awaits them and their families; and the pangs of a guilty conscience, soon or late, will render the acquisition of their ill-gotten gains, (the price of human blood and widow's tears,) very bitter.

To have a practical illustration of the evils of intemperance, imagine yourself at sea in a tempest; your ship commanded by a tipsy captain, and manned by a drunken and insubordinate crew; the roaring breakers close beneath your lee; your tattered and abandoned bark hastening, with every succeeding wave, to certain destruction. Then contrast this with a sober captain and a temperate, obedient crew, and you will set a just value on the blessings of temperance. How many of those wrecks, that have strewed the ocean's surface with mangled corpses and the merchants' hopes, have been occasioned by inebriation! The melancholy chronicles of such disasters bear a fearful record of this truth!

We are told that the spread of temperance would injure the Revenue. All governments have been instituted for the good of society; and that government that cannot subsist, except at the price of the people's degradation, is worse than no government. I have no inclination here to allude to the present mode of expending the public money; but would it not be more patriotic to tax the people in a direct way to the amount necessary to meet a just public expenditure, than to sanction by law the importation and sale of a worse than useless drug, that taxes their health, their time and

their purse, ten times more than the most extravagant annual expenditure would do?

Reader, have you been called to announce to erring man, the precepts of the Gospel? Take to the bottle, and your audience will pronounce you a hypocrite, and you do not believe one word of the Gospel you preach. Are you an eminent and eloquent member of the Bar? Pay your libations to Bacchus, and you will find few clients foolish enough to entrust the defence of their lives and properties to one who so ill defends his own. Have you spent many of your years in acquiring a knowledge of the efficacy of the Materia Medica, and in studying the connection between the nerves, arteries, and all the delicate minute organs of the human frame, and the ailments that derange their functions? Take to dram-drinking, and you will find few patients willing to submit the care of their health to one so prodigal of his own. Do you belong to the senate? Drink largely, and your constituents will receive frothy vapouring speeches, instead of wholesome laws. Are your midnight thoughts absorbed by mercantile speculations? Drink freely of the potent liquors you vend to others, and you will soon enable your clerk to close your accounts on the Dr. side of Profit and Loss. Are you a cultivator of the soil, the husband of a contented and happy wife, and the father of a hopeful, growing family? Frequent the tavern, and you will soon perceive a flourishing crop of thorns and thistles where the ripening corn once waved its yellow head. Instead of the cheerful hearth, that was wont to greet your return, you will perceive a disconsolate, sorrowing wife, mourning her hapless lot, and that of her neglected little ones. View every thing, within and without, and you behold the evident marks of neglect and desolation: the stock that once graced your pastures, and supplied your dairy with plenty, sold, one after another, to pay the grog-seller; your mortgaged farm will soon pass into the hands of another; and your helpless family be scattered about to serve as menials for a miserable subsistence, while you are fast hastening to a premature grave, unpitied and unwept, leaving the once cheering companion of your bosom to drag on a few more sorrowful years in misery and neglect. Such are some of the fruits of Intemperance.

SOPHROSUNE.

Georgetown, April 1st, 1841.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

SIR; Reading the Eighteenth Chapter of the 1st Book of Samuel—wherein is an account of gentle maidens responding to each other, in their songs, the praises of two great warriors—I was led to meditate on the miseries of desolating war, and sigh for the commencement and consummation of that long longed-for, blissful period of general, confirmed, durable peace, predicted in the Second and Eleventh Chapters of Isaiah.

From contemplating a less, transition to the consideration of a greater, evil was natural and easy; and all the horrors of Intemperance stood before me, in awful, direful, dreadful, disgusting array; when there intruded into my mind the following meagre lines; and I involuntarily exclaimed—"Happy, thrice happy Teetotalers!"

Though thousands fall by cruel Saul,
Ten thousands by the shepherd boy,
There is a tyrant worse than all;
And ah! it gives my soul no joy
To tell how cursed Satanic Rum has sent
Her millions into hopeless banishment,
With kindred spirits in the gulf to lave,
Of sad perdition, midst the blazing wave:
Then say this sin, and cheerfully engage
To take the pledge, and stay Heaven's righteous rage;
For who can dwell with everlasting burnings!
And quaff the beverage of their own earnings!

Yours, L.

Would it not aid the cause of Temperance, were medals struck off, with suitable inscriptions, and given to any persons who, on taking the pledge, might desire them, at costs and charges, and a small advance, to aid the cause? These might be worn suspended on the bosom, or hung up in the sitting-room, as constant monitors of the important obligations of the pledged.

Dr. Cheyne, a very celebrated physician, who practised about the close of the seventeenth century, states, in his Treatise on preserving Health and prolonging Life, that, although some recommend to break off habits of intemperance gradually, there is no danger in abandoning the alcoholic poison at once, and illustrates his idea, by asking whether a person fallen into the fire would desire to lie there for fear of too sudden a removal. But, as the sudden abstaining from the use of considerable quantities of ardent spirits must cause a great change in a person's general habit, it appears strange that no directions have been given, by any temperate medical man, as to the best mode in which the recently intemperate may conduct their general diet, &c., and particularly for those who, having passed the meridian of life, are fast descending into the vale of years, which, very commonly, is only another name for the "valley of weeping."

[FOR THE COLONIAL HERALD.]

TO HYLAX.

(In last Tuesday's Gazette.)

Oh! who is he that pours out sic abuse
Upon a Member of our Senate House,
That he refused on good roast beef to dine
Or tak' a cup o' C. Fitz Roy's good wine?
There's many a sturdy, staunch and farant chief
Been fed on brose, and partridge o' oatmeal;
Philosophers do sometimes live on scanty grub,
Diogenes himself, he long liv'd in a tub.
Sic men as these will seldom tak a bribe,
Unlike the grasping hiring lawyer tribe.
If Sawney lost his teeth, sic bonny white,
He lost the power but not the will to bite;
Though toothless he, L—d keep my crooked thumbs,
When he's in wrath, frae out atween his gums!
The day may come, but oh! it will be sad,
To sup his porridge HYLAX will be glad,
And like an aged hound, lick out a dog,
And rue the day he signed himself a dog.

April 16, 1841.

TESTIMONY OF THE SAFETY AND EXCELLENCE OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE.—Mr. Thomas Purdon, Governor of Richmond Penitentiary, in the United States, thus writes:—

"After an experience of twenty years, as governor of Richmond Penitentiary, during which period at least 20,000 persons were committed to the prison, a great proportion of whom were for drunkenness, I never knew of one solitary instance of an individual suffering from being at once cut off from any thing stronger than milk. The contrary is the fact, that they invariably improve in health from being debarred the use of any intoxicating liquor."

THE Subscriber offers for Sale, on the terms, for Cash down on delivery: 300 gallons genuine Wines, consisting of Port, Madeira, in draft or bottle; 850 gallons Old Jamaica Spirits, very fine; 320 gallons rich old Cognac Brandy, "Marcell" do. Real Scheidam Gin; 80 do. White Wine Vinegar, at the price of 100 do. excellent bright Sugar, first quality, 4 tons excellent bright Sugar, first quality, 36 chests and boxes Teas, Souchong, fine Camellia warranted fresh and superior. This lot of Teas, by a first rate judge, and being laid in before Teas, can be sold, although of first quality, at commonest imported. 300 lbs. Coffee, fresh Cuba. 800 lbs. fresh Carolina Rice. 150 lbs. fresh Zante Currants. 60 boxes Raisins, in prime order. 10 barrels Canada Superfine Flour, fresh—a very fine for family use. 4 dozen Flasks Florence Oil, for Salads, &c. 500 lbs. Candles—Moulds, short sixes, prepared in 50 boxes Soap, 30 to 60 lbs. each. 60 boxes 8 x 10 Window Glass, Newcastle, and will be sold lower than any ever imported. 40 dozen Tumblers and Wine Glasses. 40 gross Wine Corks; 10 boxes Eau de Cologne. 50 gross Red and White Tobacco Pipes. 1000 lbs. Tobacco (Macdonald's), No. 1, warranted. 100 lbs. Souff, Macaban, plain and scented Rappes. 100 Reams Writing and Wrapping Papers. 12 dozen American Buckets, Brooms and Whisks. 300 lbs. Cotton Warp, Nos. 6 to 10. 60 pieces white and unbleached Shirting; 50 pieces 6-4 dark Merinos, new colours, very fine. Gingham Shirting, Apron Checks, Stuffs, pattern Mourning Prints, Black Bombazines, and Gauze Handkerchiefs, Ribbons, Gloves, &c. for Mourning. A variety of Furniture, Linen and Cotton Bed Tick, Tartan Plaid, unbleached Linen Damask Table Cloths, Covers, fine Brown Holland and Linen, Irish Linen and Long Lawns, Russia Dutch and Kitchen Toweling; Macabon, black and coloured Dress Linings. 50 dozen Shawls and Handkerchiefs for Ladies, of a great variety, from 10d. to 60s. each. A lot of Shawls, slightly damaged, will be sold at 1s. to 4s.; Sable and Swanskin Ruffs for fine Lambswool Shirts and Drawers, various Men's and Boy's Scalette, Worsted, Fur, &c. kinds and prices. Gentlemen's Fur Gannets and Gloves, Ladies' Hosiery, Gloves, Chamois Skins, Combs, Ser's Straps, India Rubber and other Goods, and Venetian Bindings; Shalloons, Linings; common and six cord Cotton and prior Needles, in boxes and papers, Pins, Tapes, Bobbins, Cords and Braids, including Silks and Twists, a great variety of other kind of Trimmings and small articles of the best descriptions, at the lowest prices. Beaver and Pilot Cloth, Lion Skin, Felt, Tweeds, Moleskins and Cassines, various Fine white Flannels, Serges, Rose Blain, for quarters; white and coloured Combs, Carving Knives and Forks, Penknives and superior; Pump Tacks, Carro, Bake Pots, Chain Traces, Sleigh Belts, Cart Saddles and swivel Frying Pans; very superior Sauce Pans, and other hardware articles, at a low price. Improved Steel Pens, blue, black and red Ink, Murray's and Chambers's 1st and 2d Reader, School Testaments, Prayer Books, Bibles, Toy Books, &c. A few Family Bibles; American Editions, various Drugs, Spices, &c., all warranted of the first quality and fresh. White, Black and Cayenne Peppers, whole Ginger, Basket Salt, Caraway, Nutmegs, Cinnamon, Isinglass, Citron, Lemon, Harvey's Sauce, Pearl Sago, Arrowroot, French Night Tapers for Chambers, Cinnamon plain and scented Hair Powder, brown Wash, Sulfur, Sulphur, Brimstone, Aromatic Logwood, Fustic, Acetone for coloring, Codbear, Saffron, Coppars, Indigo, Gum Starch, Cotton Stone, Bees Wax, Epsom's Camphor, Salt of Lemon. Dr. Hughes' celebrated Rheumatic nerve and East India Polyandra Oil, for Rheumatism. Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam, for pulmonary Dr. Steer's Chemical Opodeldoc. Balsam of Life, British Oil, Medicamentum, Essences of Peppermint, Lavender, Rose, Henry's Calcined Magnesia, Court Soda and Scidlitz Powders, &c. &c. &c. CHAMBERS' PEOPLE'S EDITIONS OF Works, unrivalled in the annals of useful literature, warranted complete Editions of the notes, preface and remarks, by the press. History of Scotland, by William Robertson, History of the Rebellion in Scotland, in 1745. Robert Chambers, fifth edition, greatly enlarged. History of Civilization in Europe, from the Roman Empire till the French Revolution. M. Guizot, the present Prime Minister of France. Travels in Hindostan and China, illustrated with wood engravings, by Howard Malcolm. Travels in the Burman Empire, with a map and illustrations, by do. Travels in the East, including a Journey in the Land, by Alphonse de Lamartine. Travels in Russia, Tartary and Turkey, by do. with numerous notes, &c. prepared for this edition, (published originally at five guineas). Travels in Egypt, Arabia Petrea, and the Holy Land, by J. L. Stephens. Travels in Greece, Russia, Turkey and Poland. A Tour in Holland, the countries of the Rhine, Belgium, in the autumn of 1838, by William Chambers, one of the Editors of Chambers's Journals. The Life and Adventures of Robinson Crusoe, Mariner. The Life and Miscellaneous Writings of Benjamin Franklin, greatly extended and improved. The Adventures of Roderick Random, by Tobias Smollett, with a memoir of the author. The Adventures of Caleb Williams, by William Godwin, with a memoir of the author. The Prose Works of Robert Burns, with the notes of Currie and Cromek, and many by the editor. The Poetical Works of Robert Burns, with the notes added notes illustrating historical, local and allusions. The Life of Robert Burns, with a critical and judiciously extended by additional publications, of which were never before made public. Marmion; a tale of Flodden-field, by Sir Walter Scott. The Lay of the Last Minstrel, a Poem, by do. The Lady of the Lake, by do. The Sabbath, and other Poems, by the Rev. John Wilson Crockett, LL.D. Anster Fair, and other poems, by Tennant. Allan Ramsay's Gentle Shepherd, and other Poems, by do. Defoe's Complete English Tradesman. The Cottagers of Glenburnie, a tale, by Mrs. Annandale. The Imprisonment of Silvio Pellico, translated from the original Italian, for this edition. The Constitution of Man, considered in relation to external objects, by George Combe, LL.D., edition, revised, corrected and enlarged. Natural Theology, or evidences of the existence of the Deity, by the Rev. A. A. Nichol, LL.D., with additions and notes, bringing the subject to the present state of science. The conduct of the Understandings, and thoughts concerning Education, by John Locke, with a memoir of the author, and his works, by ALEXANDER DAVIDSON. No 1, Queen Street, Brecken's Corner, CHARLOTTE TOWN: Printed and published by the Editors of the Honorable the House of Assembly, East corner of Pownall and Water Streets, num, payable half yearly in advance.