

The Son of Temperance.

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No. 3

After the Rain.

I heard a song on the moorland brown,
When the days grew fair and long ;
Methought no voice in the noisy town
Could sing so sweet a song ;
It was but a herd-boy, all alone, —
Alone on the showery plain,
Who sang with a silvery trumpet tone,
"The sunshine follows the rain."

My thoughts turn back to that April
day
As I pace the city street ;
But the brown, brown moor lies far
away
From the tread of weary feet ;
Yet ever the song rings clear and loud,
Over and over again,
Above the din of the restless crowd, —
"The sunshine follows the rain."

God knows it is hard to fret and strive,
For the gold that soon is spent ;
It seems sometimes that the sinners
thrive,
While saints are less content !
But He knows too that the clouds will
part,
And the hidden path grow plain ;
His angels sing to the doubting heart,
"The sunshine follows the rain."

National Division.

Annual Session at Washington.

THE thirty-fifth Annual Session of the National Division Sons of Temperance of North America was opened on the 17th June, in the lecture-room of the Congregational Church, Washington, — M. W. P. Geo. W. Ross in the chair.

About one hundred and twenty Representatives were in attendance, in addition to a large number of visiting members. The following members of the Order from Ontario were present: Bros. J. W. Manning, G. M. Rose, G. W. Ross, David Millar, J. M. T. Hannum, Thomas Caswell, John McMillan, Thomas Webster, and Sisters Mrs. Ross, Miss Rose, and Mrs. Webster ; and John S. Hall, of Quebec.

After the opening ceremony and the initiation of new members the Committee on Arrangements submitted the programme of the proceedings for the session, which in addition to the business ses-

sions consisted of a public reception the first evening, fruit festival second evening, and excursion to Mount Vernon on Thursday afternoon.

The Most Worthy Patriarch, George W. Ross, then delivered his annual address, which announced a decrease of 9,000 in the membership of the Order since the last annual meeting, the financial depression being justly chargeable with a certain portion of this decline. The number expelled from the Order was less, by about 3,000 than during the previous year. The number suspended was also less by 2,000. The receipts for the last financial year are also less by \$1,400 than the previous year. The Grand Division of Georgia has been re-established. Unless some extra efforts are put forth during the current year, he feared still greater losses in membership will be reported at the next annual session. He reported the outlook as more encouraging than it was a year ago. The effect of the red and blue ribbon movements was, in a certain sense, injurious to the Order. Now that the excitement of those societies has subsided he hoped for the establishment of the Order in their place, to give cohesion and permanency to the work they have done. The address also noticed the decease of P. M. W. P. J. J. Bradford of Kentucky. It also referred to work done by Good Templars and the Women's Temperance Association, and the general activity among temperance workers, declaring that "the ballot-box must yet become the 'thirty-nine articles' of temperance men."

The session was adjourned until half past two o'clock.

At the appointed time the delegates reassembled and received the reports of the M. W. S. and M. W. T. The report of the Most

Worthy Scribe, S. W. Hodges, detailed the condition of the Order. The total membership was reported as 63,026. The report of the Most Worthy Treasurer, Wm. A. Duff, showed the receipts of the year to be \$5,424.-86, and the expenditure \$3,998.-57, leaving a balance of \$1,426.29.

Amendments to the Constitution, proposed at last session, and the by-laws proposed at the Sons of Temperance Mutual Relief Society were read.

The address of the Most Worthy Patriarch, the reports of the Most Worthy Scribe and the Most Worthy Treasurer, and the amendments of the Constitution were referred to the committee on distribution for publication.

At 8 o'clock the delegates attended

A PUBLIC RECEPTION.

given in their honour at the Congregational Church, which was worthy of the occasion. The audience began to assemble an hour before the time set for the reception, and at 8 o'clock the Church was crowded. The decorations were magnificent. An Arch with the word "Welcome" in white immortelles, was stretched across the choir-box in front of the organ. The face of the organ was almost hidden from view, so profuse was the embellishments. Three shields with the words, "Love, Purity, Fidelity," the motto of the Order, and another with the word "Prohibition," the battle-cry of the Order, were there suspended. Four more shields, one at each end of the choir-box and one attached to the wall at each side of the organ, were inscribed with the names of O'Neill, Sands, Bradford, and Condict, four of the deceased Past Most Worthy Patriarchs. The galleries and walls were most tastefully decorated with flags of all nations, set off by the colours of