

or twice when I have been visiting there I have heard my sister speak of the family. Last Saturday evening I happened to think of them and I asked my sister how they were getting along. 'Come over and make them a call,' said she; 'he's just got home.' We went cross lots, and going right in without knocking, as is my sister's custom, we found the mother in tears and the children half crying, half laughing. My sister saw through it in a minute, but I was a little thick-headed or something. The father came in from an adjoining room presently, looking fresh and happy, and we had a little chat with them and left. 'I'm afraid they don't live happily,' said I, as we walked home. My sister looked at me a minute and said, 'John Henry, can't you see through a mill stone with a hole in it? There was a new dress on that table and stockings for the children. You don't have to be mean to a woman who has seen what that woman has to make her cry.'—*Chicago Herald*.

A twenty-two gallon keg of whiskey was found in sawdust in a barrel marked "No. 1 A Sugar," on the premises of a man who had been brought before the mayor of Oxford on a charge of selling whiskey contrary to law. On a change of venue, he was found "not guilty," but upon being charged with having intoxicating liquors with intent to sell, and with keeping and maintaining a nuisance, the defendant pleaded guilty to keeping liquors, and was fined \$50, the other actions being dismissed on his promising not to violate the law again. The following day the liquors, valued at \$300, were destroyed. Thus the first violation in Oxford was nipped in the bud.—*N. W. News, Davenport, Iowa*.

SWITZERLAND.—A very interesting development in temperance agitation has been in progress on the continent of Europe for the past few years. Beginning with a small meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1877, the movement has steadily increased in power and extent. The parent society now bears the title of "Société Suisse de la Croix Bleue." It embraces a number of local organizations in the various Cantons of Switzerland, and is extending its work in France, Belgium and Germany. In its official organ, *La Croix Bleue*, established in 1882, we find an account of the last delegated annual convention of the society, with the report of the president and some of the addresses delivered. It is interesting to note the figures which indicate the rapid increase of their membership. Take Switzerland as an example. In 1881 the total number of adherents was 400; in 1882, 1,001; in 1883 2,884. The condition of membership is a pledge of total abstinence. Some take the pledge for one year, or some other specified time, and others for life. They make a classification as to the motives which prompt to this action. Some sign to encourage the weak, others to be reformed, and still a third class for self-protection. We translate from the French some extracts of the president's report. He says:

"The members of the society can, indeed, congratulate themselves upon the results obtained, but they have yet no right to take their ease. For a thousand drunkards who become abstainers there are still thousands and tens of thousands who are slaves to appetite. While they remain unconverted we have no right to diminish our efforts. May God give us, therefore, what is needed for the work—fidelity, faith and charity.

"Our best recompense, as, unquestionably, our greatest cause of rejoicing, is thinking of those thousands of friends who, perhaps, without this Swiss temperance society would still suffer from their vice and cause suffering to their families. Thanks be to God, in whose service we are, by bringing them back into the good way, they have become, or are in the way to become, useful men, honorable citizens, good members of families, and many among them already are sincere and devoted Christians. When we see them, after having been themselves strengthened, working to reclaim their former intemperate companions, our hearts thrill with joy, and we bless God for having inclined our hearts to undertake this work."

In referring to the aim in view of extending the work till it embraces an international federation, he says: "While we wait for this international development to be attained, let us rejoice at what is done not only in Switzerland by the means of our society, but also around it. Thank God that public opinion is being educated, that our federal authorities are at work, and that in all countries, and in all parties, among Conservatives and Radicals alike, Protestants and Catholics, the voice of the press makes itself heard, and men of heart take up this cry that we have so often urged: We must destroy alcoholism! Thank Him also that many besides join

us in that other cry which completes the first. With God's help we must save its victims!"

Under the head of the auxiliary work mention is made of temperance cafes, inns and asylums established in various sections.

In considering their branch of the work especially for children, similar to our Bands of Hope, a minister from Neuchâtel testified that he had many times, as president of the school commission, "to censure scholars for having used brandy and abused wine." Another delegate, in expressing his desire that the convention appoint a commission to publish a good treatise on the subject of cider, said: "Among the German Swiss this drink is very much used, and it is claimed by some people that it ought not to be considered as an intoxicating drink. It was necessary, therefore, to educate public opinion in this respect, and that the instruction be based upon scientific authority."

It is a significant comment on the delusion cherished by many in this country that there is no drunkenness in the wine-growing districts of the Old World that these philanthropic people find so much temperance work to do there. A careful reading of *La Croix Bleue* would give them new light upon this disputed point. It is evident that alcohol does intoxicate there as here, and that temperance workers the wide world over find it necessary to take up the various phases of the problem thoroughly and radically to insure success. They are everywhere met by the same obstacles, and have need of the same faith to overcome them. But all the forces of good are on their side, and must triumph in the end.—A. R. P., *National Temperance Advocate*.

The following circular has been issued by the Grand Division Sons of Temperance of Ontario:—

To the Subordinate Divisions of the Order in Ontario:

BROTHERS AND SISTERS,—You are hereby notified that the annual session of this Grand Division will be held in the Court House, City of Kingston, commencing on Tuesday, the 2nd day of December next, at ten o'clock a. m.

Arrangements have been made with the railways to convey members of the Order attending this session at one fare and one-third for the double journey. Tickets may be procured from the 27th November to the 3rd December, and will be made good to return until the 11th December following.

The Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific railways both run to Kingston, and delegates may go by either roads, on obtaining certificates from the Grand Scribe, which should be applied for immediately.

Board may be obtained at the different hotels at the following rates, namely: British American and Burnett, \$2 per day; City Hotel, \$1.50 per day; Union and Wagoner, \$1 per day.

Representatives desiring to secure rooms may write to "Bro. W. McRossie, D. G. W. P., Kingston, Ont."

The Executive earnestly request that every subordinate Division of the Order be represented at this meeting. The great success that has attended our efforts in the past, makes it most important that we carefully consider what is best for the future, and without a large representation this can scarcely be done in a satisfactory manner. We must more firmly unite, for without union there is no strength.

Yours in Love, Purity and Fidelity,

JOHN McMILLAN, G. W. P.

THOS. WEBSTER, G. S.

Selected Articles.

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The liquor traffic earns nothing; it creates no value; it adds not a dollar to the national wealth, nor in any way to the welfare and prosperity of the country. The money obtained by the trade is not earned as honest industries earn money—by giving a valuable return for it. It obtains money from those who earn it by their labor, giving in return for it what is not only of no value, but far worse than that—something which leads to poverty, pauperism, wretchedness, and crime; which disinclines men to honest industry, and finally unfits them for it. This traffic, like war, wastes the pro-