

STORMY DAYS.

*Struggles of the early Worthies to prevent
Scism, and to open our doors for the
admission of Women and Colored
Persons to the Order.*

At the Hamilton session held in May, 1851, Bro. W. S. Burnham, G.W.P., made this statement:

"Whereas, a circular purporting to emanate from the Grand Division of the Independent Order of the Sons of Temperance of Canada has made its appearance, and is calculated to mislead and deceive Sons of Temperance, and also the public, it becomes my duty as G.W.P. of the Grand Division of Canada West, to caution all within the jurisdiction against holding any intercourse with the said self-styled "Grand Division of the Independent Order of the Sons of Temperance of Canada." Notwithstanding their pretensions to be lovers of unity and concord, they have arrayed themselves against our Order, and for the past year have tried to sow dissensions and discord through the Province, and are at the present confined almost exclusively to the locality where they first made their disorganizing attempt, and at this time do not exceed fifty persons; notwithstanding that on some of their circulars, in pencil, their number is stated at over one million.

"This is to caution all Sons of Temperance against either visiting them, or receiving them as visitors into their Divisions, as either would involve the forfeiture of their privileges as Sons of Temperance."

At the outset membership in the Order was limited to men. The refusal of the National Division to grant the privilege of membership to women resulted in a scism from which came the I.O.G.T. "The Grand Union of the Daughters of Temperance of Canada" was founded in 1851, and the following resolution appears in our Journal, "That a donation of twenty-five pounds currency be given by this G.D. as a token of our good will and our gratitude to the Daughters for their benevolent co-operation with us in the cause of virtue and humanity." A clause in a report also reads, "Your committee fully appreciating the importance of obtaining the co-operation and aid of the gentler sex (without which all other efforts are unavailing) respectfully recommend the cheerful acquiescence of this G.D.G. in promoting the objects of the Grand Union."

Ultimately ladies were admitted as visitors; finally they were given full mem-

bership, but not until it was too late to avoid the establishment of a rival Order that in a short time made phenomenal progress.

The Grand Division of Ontario was stirred by hot debates when the question of admitting colored people to the Order was raised in the National Division. We find a circular letter from the Grand Scribe of New Hampshire was sent to Ontario containing their resolution, which reads as follows: "That the recent vote of the National Division in refusing to repeal its previous action regarding the admission of colored persons as members of the Order, renders it necessary for us to reiterate our former assertion that this action 'is an attempt to create a rule that is in no way authorized by, or admissible under the constitution of the legislative head of the Order,' but on the contrary 'our labors of love and mercy know no limits but those which prescribe the wretchedness of man,' and 'to bind the whole family of man with the triple cord of Love, Purity and Fidelity, and to make them better, and consequently happier, is our high and holy calling.'

"Resolved, that this Grand Division denies the legality of the rule of the National Division prohibiting the admission of colored persons as members of the Order, and therefore all Divisions under this jurisdiction will be sustained in admitting all worthy persons as members of the Order, whether they be white or black, whether they be the red men of the colored forest or the colored sons of Africa."

The question was debated exhaustively and finally laid over, and at the next session an amendment was put in that "the representatives to the National Division were to take such steps as may restore subordinate Divisions the power to restore colored men to membership as formerly." This was afterwards withdrawn and the following substitute given, "That the Grand Division have full confidence in the judgment of the representatives and leave them free to act as they deem right and proper, believing that they and the National Division would, in justice and discretion, devise means to meet the present difficulty."

It is the pride and glory of our institution now that we have no privileged classes; it enrolls under its tri-colored banner all ranks in society. Women have every right and privilege accorded to any member. It recognizes no distinction on account of race, sex, color, or former condition, but all are alike equal, and all join in the common purpose of promoting the public weal and relieving the world from the evils of intemperance.



BRO. JAS. A. WILEY, D.W.P. OF LINCOLN.

Born 1867 in St. Catharines. Initiated in Grantham Division No. 72, in 1886, had previously been enrolled in the ranks of the Band of Hope. Was married on September 10th, 1890, to Miss Lizzie L. Cook, the happy couple being at the time W.P. and W.A. respectively of their Division. The members of the Division presented them with a handsome album and address. Bro. Wiley has been D.G.W.P. of his Division for many years. He was initiated in the Grand Division at Toronto, December, 1897. At the institution of the District Division for Lincoln he was elected D.S. and in 1898 D.W.P. He is President of St. Paul's Methodist Church Epworth League, and has taken a prominent part in municipal reforms.

KEEP A-GOIN'.

If you strike a thorn or rose,
Keep a-go in'!
If it hails or if it snows,
Keep a-go in'!
'Taint no use to sit and whine
When the fish ain't on your line;
Bait your hook an' keep on tryin'—
Keep a-go in'!
When the weather kills your crop,
Keep a-go in'!
When you tumble from the top,
Keep a-go in'!
S'pose you're out o' every dime!
Gettin' brcke ain't any crime;
Tell the world your feelin' prime!
Keep a-go in'!
When it looks like all is up,
Keep a-go in'!
Drain the sweetness from the cup,
Keep a-go in'!
See the wild birds on the wing!
Hear the bells that sweetly ring!
When you feel like singin'—sing!
Keep a-go in'!

—Atlanta Constitution.

SOUTH SIMCOE.—The first regular session of this new D.D. was held at Thornton on June 7th. The G.W.P. and Bro. Bogart, P. D. G. W. P., were present. Hopes are entertained for a prosperous future. With such hard workers as Rev. Bro. Cowle, Hamilton Young, J. W. Henry, W. Maneer success must come.