

a far more temperate city than it is to-day. He was very glad this paper had been started in Toronto, for since he had been here he had felt that we should have a first-class temperance paper. He believed that the temperance question of to-day was so strong that we should have a paper whose one aim is this one thing and only this one thing. There is room and scope enough for it, and he believed there were enough temperance people to take it if called upon, to make it a paying venture. A great majority of his congregation were staunch teetotalers. In his Sabbath School of nearly 400, nearly all the young men and women were teetotalers. He was happy to support the enterprise in any way in which he could help it.

MR. W. BURGESS, originator and former editor of THE CITIZEN expressed his gratitude that so many had come to do honor to his baby. He thought that the paper should be devoted to the special subjects of temperance and social reform. He was pleased to say that THE CITIZEN had exerted considerable influence in the past having closed the worst den which had ever existed in the city, worse than any he had ever seen in Glasgow or London or Edinburgh. It was an article in THE CITIZEN, or rather a series of articles which called the attention of Mayor McMurrich to the matter of the existence of a low class variety theatre on King Street West. He thought that THE CITIZEN should root out social sores that other papers would not touch. There was no reason why a temperance publishing house should not be established in this country where temperance literature of every kind could be got.

The President at this stage introduced Mrs. McEwen, member of the Board of Directors, remarking that the temperance question was essentially a woman's question.

MRS. MCEWEN, who was received with applause, expressed her opinion that the paper should discuss all questions of social reform. She liked to go into anything of that kind—it was one of her hobbies. There was no voice so mighty as the voice of the ballot. When we have the franchise and can use it as true, intelligent, christian women we can help temperance as we can in no other way. She hoped that each one would have sufficient interest to strive to obtain subscribers to the paper. Wherever we go let us give a good word for it. She wondered at the temperance organizations in this city not going forward and taking stock in the paper more liberally than they had done.

REV. T. SIMS remarked in opening that he did not possess the franchise himself; he could not say with William Arnott, who once said in Glasgow, I stand here with a vote in my pocket and a tongue in my head. Though he didn't possess a vote, still he had a tongue in his head, and he was glad to use it in expressing pleasure at the improvement that has been manifested in THE CITIZEN during the last few months. It is a very admirable temperance paper, the articles manifest a good deal of both crisp and strong sentiment, while the manner of putting them was very excellent. He found it a great treat sometimes after poring over matter that was rather dry.

He was happy to say that Primitive Methodism had from its first inception been on the side of temperance. He believed that the very first total abstinence meeting held in England where teetotalism was formulated, was composed by three or four Primitive Methodists. He believed that Dickey Turner the author of that word was a Primitive Methodist. His church had exerted a good deal of influence over her ministers; no minister can go on preaching year after year unless he is an abstainer, from the fact that when the April quarterly meetings are held the question has to be answered. "Are you an abstainer from intoxicating drink?" and it would be utterly impossible for a man to remain in the ministry unless he was able to answer that question in the affirmative. It had sometimes occurred to him that the authority which is exercised over the ministers on this question might fairly be brought to bear on the laymen; he believed that a layman is a minister's equal if he be a good man, he didn't see if a minister is asked to answer in the affirmative the question mentioned, why the minister in turn should not require the layman to answer it. He believed that temperance would soon come to be a part of the churches' discipline, not only for drunkenness, but for that use of liquor which is sometimes called moderation.

MR. IMPEY expressed his admiration of the paper for the creditable way in which it is brought out; it is a most creditable paper at a small nominal cost. He would do what he could to aid the enterprise.

MR. R. J. FLEMING heartily sympathized with the object, but would like to see that \$2,000 worth of stock subscribed so as to realize upon Mr. Howland's magnificent offer. He would start the

ball rolling by pledging himself to take five shares of capital stock. (This announcement was received with applause).

REV. DYSON HAGUE remarked that he had read in a recent English paper a statement that the amount of revenue in England had been decreased by the sum of five millions sterling on account of the temperance agitation which had been created there. If we could have items of that kind being published from week to week in THE CITIZEN our people would soon be stimulated.

MR. W. J. BIRD said that he represented one of the largest temperance societies in this city, and would do his utmost from the impetus received to-night to bring this paper before the people there. He would canvas the neighborhood. He was well acquainted with the Alliance news, which had great power in enlightening the masses of Great Britain on the temperance question.

MR. IMPEY said he would follow the lead of Mr. Fleming and take five shares.

THE PRESIDENT spoke warmly of the movement, and proposed to aid the \$2,000 fund by adding five more shares to the twenty-five he already held.

MR. MORTON had had experience of temperance papers, having been connected with *Pure Gold* some years ago, and having increased the list of that paper from 500 to 2,000. THE CITIZEN had now passed through the stages of babyhood, and it would no doubt grow to be a healthy child. He had concluded to take stock and announced that he would take five shares.

MR. EDWARD BECKETT expressed his strong sympathy with a movement dear to his heart, and of such vital importance to all. He would subscribe for ten shares in his own name, and for five more in the name of his little boy.

REV. MR. POWIS strongly endorsed the enterprise, and promised it the assistance of his personal co-operation and support.

The stock-book was then opened, and a large amount of stock was subscribed upon the spot.

#### THE SCOTT ACT IN OXFORD COUNTY.

"Onward" is the motto of the Temperance party in Oxford. More than a year ago a strong association was formed consisting of all the clergymen in the county and at least one prominent layman from each municipality in the county. This association went to work quietly but with determination and vigor. Similar associations were formed in the various municipalities of the county, working under the direction of the County Association. Numerous meetings on behalf of prohibition were held throughout the county, and petitions circulated asking for the submission of the Scott Act to a vote of the electors in the county. These petitions were signed by no less than 3,064 of the electors, a far greater number than absolutely required by law, and they are now before the government at Ottawa. It is expected that the voting will take place before many weeks. The prospect is bright and the temperance men are confident of a glorious victory. The lack of funds is, however, sorely felt, and an appeal is made for financial help by the Woodstock Lodge of I. O. G. T. to the friends of temperance outside the county. The tavern-keepers of Oxford are spending large sums, and are backed by the whole power of the License Victuallers' Association of Ontario. We hope the friends of humanity and of God to whom this appeal may come will promptly and generously come to the help of their brethren in Oxford who are making a noble effort to rid their county of the liquor curse. The President of the County Association is the Rev. W. A. McKay, B. A., of Chalmer's Church, Woodstock; the Secretary and traveling agent is the Rev. C. R. Morrow, of C. M. Church, Otterville; and the Treasurer is M. Cody of the Baptist Church, Embro. Moneys sent to any of these gentlemen will be acknowledged in THE CANADA CITIZEN. We have made arrangements by which our readers will be duly informed from time to time of the campaign in Oxford.

Mr. Francis Murphy, abroad for two years, reports much gratifying success in his work. In Dundee, out of a population of 155,000, 33,000 signed the pledge. One-third of the little city of Spalding, with a population of 7,000, took the pledge. In Stockton-on-Tees, 5,000 men and women did as much; in Sunderland 3,000 joined the ranks. Forfar, too, impregnable as it was, the most dissipated town in Scotland, yielded. In Ireland, where Mr. Murphy left his son, Mr. Thomas E. Murphy, 100,000 people took up the cause.