

to preserve, and if possible to advance. Now, first of all, it would drive out of our ranks many good and sober men who, as I have said, do not yet see eye to eye with others of us on this particular question. I hope that time

#### MAY SOON INDUCE A CHANGE OF VIEW

with many of them. I believe our present attitude favours such a change, and I am quite sure that expulsion would not tend to produce such a change at all, but the reverse. Then it would not bring to our ranks the honest temperance Tories. They believe in Sir John Macdonald, Mr. John Carling, and Mr. Frank Smith. They believe in the general policy of the Government. They are opposed to us on all the general questions of the day. If honest men they cannot sacrifice their convictions on all these questions, and, therefore, they cannot co-operate with us upon them. If dishonest men, we don't want them. (Loud and prolonged applause.) Then again, it would render impossible the conduct of the business of the country under the system of party organization, without providing any substitute for that system whatever. Then as to the cause. I conscientiously believe it would not advance the cause; on the contrary, in my belief it would retard it. (Applause.) The cause would be weaker now and would be weaker later, and by introducing the bitterness and nearly equal divisions of party into this special controversy, the chance of passing and afterwards of maintaining a law, which more than any other law I know of requires a very general assent, would be indefinitely postponed. But anyway, whatever may be desirable, it is not now a party question. It is a question

#### ON WHICH REFORMERS AGREE TO DIFFER,

on which each one acts on his own judgment. I speak for myself and for myself alone. I express the view of no other man.

#### I DECLINE POSITIVELY

from my notions of public duty to assist in any way at this time to make this a party question. *I have endeavoured, and shall continue to endeavour, to win every man, Reformer or Tory, to my temperance opinions by argument and by example.* But I shall neither drive away from my side of general politics Reformers who do not think with me on temperance and prohibition questions, nor shall I refuse on temperance and prohibition questions to co-operate with Tories who oppose me on general politics. (Cheers.) I will act with all, I will do my best for the promotion