

The Son of Temperance.

VOL. II.

BRANTFORD, AUGUST, 1880.

No. 4.

The Good of the Order.

The Lay of an Elderly Man.

(Recite cheerfully and lively, as if glad.)

I'm aged a little, so I'm told,
They say I'm rather charged of late,
My stories too are growing old,
And rather flat and out of date;
I've gained a stone in weight since May,
And though my eyes were never better,
Yet all the papers of the day
Seem printed in a smaller letter.

My hair with white is braided o'er,
I've ceased to care about my dress;
I think I love my dinner more,
I'm sure I love exertion less.
My wife so indistinctly talks
That, though my hearing's good as ever
My fixed attention oft she baulks,
Despite her well-meaning endeavour.

My appetite has grown I think,
I like to linger o'er my food;
And if you ask me what I drink,
Cold water is my best "HOME-

[BREWED.]

I've always been a temp'rate man,
In fact I'm an old campaigner,
For since my middle life began
I've been an out and out abstainer.

I feel a younger man to-night
Than when I quaffed my daily beer;
My nerves are firm, my eyes are bright,
Come what come may, I never fear.
And though "the weed" in every shape
Was once well handled by these fingers,
I now feel happy to escape
The snare, where such ill-odour lingers,

But more than all—I'm glad to say
I'm not yet frozen up in self;
My heart still loves the young and gay,
Still beats for something higher than

[self];

And in the hour when I forego
The joy of loving and befriending,
May that same power that makes me so
Make that same hour my earthly

[ending].

PROGRAMME FOR AUGUST.

1ST WEEK.—After usual business,
Readings, Recitations, and
Vocal or Instrumental Music.

2ND WEEK.—After usual business,
Debate—Question: Would the
abolition of the liquor traffic be
a public benefit?

3RD WEEK.—After usual business,
Address by the Chaplain and
the Past Worthy Patriarch, on
the present aspect of the tem-
perance reform.

4TH WEEK.—After usual business,
Short speeches in answer to the
question, "What have we been
doing during the month, to ad-
vance the Order of the Sons of
Temperance."

Our Divisions.

National Division, Sons of Temperance.

THE thirty-sixth annual session of the National Division, assembled in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, the 15th day of June, 1880. There were eighty-one delegates present from twenty-one grand divisions, besides quite a number of visitors from the various jurisdictions. The session was one of the most pleasant and harmonious ever held.

G. W. Ross, Esq., M. P., of Ontario, Canada, Most Worthy Patriarch, submitted his annual report showing the progress of the work and the Order in North America. While quite a number of grand divisions reported a good increase of membership; yet there has been a total loss of membership of about nine thousand. The Grand Division of Indiana has been re-organized. Only one decision was reported as having been made during the year. We make the following extracts from the report.

"The efforts of temperance men, though not conspicuous by the prosperity of any of the close organizations during the past year, have nevertheless been fruitful in moulding public opinion and in bracing up the moral purposes of society for a death-struggle by and by with the liquor traffic. The result of the recent English elections is said to be favorable to Sir Wilfrid Lawson's measure for local control over licenses, a boon for which temperance men have struggled hard for many years."

"In Canada the constitutionality of local option has been settled by the Supreme Court once and for ever, and all attempts to destroy

its force and validity foiled by the firmness of the Senate. The National Temperance Publication Society has been very active, and has done even more than its usual average of good work. Some of its recent publications are particularly valuable, and cannot fail to influence public opinion favorably. It has long been a power, and every friend of temperance can only hope that its means for doing good may be increased and its sphere of usefulness extended.

"The special work of the Order, under present circumstances, should be to endeavor to increase the number and membership of our subordinate divisions. Strength consists in numbers and organizations—the organization we have now—the numbers we should get, if ever we are to exert that influence which the interests of society demand we should exert. In every hamlet and town on this continent we should erect a home for the drunkard—an asylum for the victim of intemperance. At every centre of population and business we should unfurl our standard, and ask good men and true to rally to the defence of sobriety and virtue. In every assembly where the interests of the many are delegated to the few, men should be placed loyal to our principles, and with the courage requisite to defend them against the attacks of the enemy. Nothing that could give us either social or legal power should be left undone. Wherever the liquor traffic has an advocate, there we should have an assailant. Wherever falsehood and error have entrenched themselves, there righteousness and truth, their only antidote, should immediately be introduced. 'Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty,' and the most persistent aggressiveness, unflinching courage, and indomitable energy are the price of success."

S. W. Hodges, Most Worthy Scribe, presented his Annual Report, from which we take the following statistics: There are now 1,392 subordinate divisions; 21,630 new members have been initiated the past year; 1,689 reinstated; 6,181 withdrawn; 8,881 in divisions which have surrendered charters; 12,834 sus-