

The Temperance Cause.

At the end of last month the Band of Hope connected with St. John's Church gave a very pleasing entertainment, the principal feature of which was the rendering of the service of song, entitled "For Harry's Sake." The story was read by the Incumbent, and the solos and choruses were all sung by the children. The audience were greatly delighted and showed their appreciation by a liberal collection. This temperance service of song is the second that has been given by the society since its organization, which took place less than a year ago.

In our last issue we referred to the recent anniversary of the Church of England Temperance Society, we now give some extracts from the report then presented, which will give our readers some idea of the greatness of the work which is being done in the Mother land.

In presenting their twenty-third annual report, the Council of the Church of England Temperance Society are again able to thank God for real progress. The organized forces which Temperance Reformers are called to confront are so vast, and the habits of the nation so deeply seated, that great as the progress has been, it is yet but small compared with what still remains to be done. Each year confirms the soundness of the Society's principle of the double basis, and shows the practical wisdom of the administration by which the needs of various classes of the community are sought out, and special departments created to supply them. The rescue of the drunkard alone is not enough; prevention must go forward as well as cure, while for prevention itself legislation alone cannot suffice.

The formation of public opinion—by the training of the young, by specific educational efforts, improved recreation, counter attraction, and the incontestible results of rescue work—this is as essential for procuring the sorely-needed legislation as for its practical working when procured.

LEGISLATION.—In accordance with a resolution passed at the October Council meeting, steps have been taken with a view to the re-introduction of the Society's Licensing Reform Bill into the House of Commons. The Bill will have for its object, as heretofore, the progressive and very large reduction of the numbers of drinking houses, and the more efficient control of those which are left. The Grocers' Spirit License Repeal Bill will also be reintroduced on the first opportunity.

The Society took part, with other organizations, in a deputation to the Earl Granville, to strengthen the hands of the Government in resisting the introduction of a spirit traffic into the Congo-Basin, and they were glad to notice that a similar deputation was sent by the Church Missionary Society with regard to the district of the Niger.

EDUCATIONAL WORK.—The Chronicle.—The Council are again under a deep debt of gratitude to the Hon. Editor, Mr. Frederick Sherlock, editor of *Hand and Heart*, for his devoted and indefatigable service in this post of extreme difficulty and labour.

WORK AMONG THE YOUNG.—The Council have reason to believe that systematic temperance teaching in the branches, with examinations and prizes, is on the increase. They would strongly call attention to this phase of the work, and urge the importance of efforts to increase the use of Temperance text-books in schools of all kinds.

THE YOUNG STANDARD BEARER continues to be most acceptable and useful. Through the renewed kind assistance of Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton & Co., a prize competition for the best painted text was again carried out at Christmas, drawing forth numerous texts painted by young people of all classes, of which 14 were selected for prizes. The texts are this year being sent as presents to young Colonists in various parts of the world.

JUVENILE UNION.—Since May, 1883, under the name of the Juvenile Union, the work has included the young of all classes. Owing to lack of funds, it was only last year that, after much hesitation, the Executive allowed the Juvenile sub-Committee to appoint an Organizing Secretary for this department. Miss S. Ursula Gardner, well known as a devoted and successful voluntary worker, author of "Children of Light, or Temperance Talks with the Children," began her work as Secretary on Oct. 1st, since which date she has addressed 53 meetings, and several new branches have been started. Before this appointment the work had been carried on under great difficulties by the Rev. T. G. Crosse, Curate of St. John's, Notting Hill, as Hon. Secretary, to whom the warm thanks of the Council are due. A plan has been matured by which teachers in schools of all grades, and temperance workers amongst the young, may become associates of the Union, and over seventy have been thus enrolled.

THE WOMAN'S UNION has made steady progress during the past year, 14 branches having been added to the parent centre, and 9 to the different diocesan centres, the total number of branches being 91. The number would have been larger but for the fact that several have either lapsed or merged into other branches, and the provincial work has been somewhat hindered by the long illness of the Secretary, Miss Haslam. 120 meetings have been attended by lady deputations or the Secretary, and four large drawing-room meetings have been held. A course of four lectures to ladies, on the "Medical Aspect of Alcohol in Relation to Health," was given in November by Dr. E. Symes Thompson and Dr. Leeson. The Union was represented by the Secretary at the National Temperance Congress, Liverpool, in July. The Union hope, with God's blessing, largely to extend their work in the ensuing year. They are glad to report the accession of the Marchioness of Tavistock and Mrs. Temple to their Executive.

THE
Weather is now growing warmer, and the extreme languid feeling, want of appetite, dullness, languor and lassitude, effects nine-tenths of the human family and often Bona, Biorouga, etc. that have been lying dormant in the blood for months past now make their appearance, all caused by your blood not being in proper condition. It is impossible to throw off these impurities without the proper remedy, and the most reliable medicine is Estey's Iron and Quinine Tonic. Sold by all druggists. Price 50c., six bottles for \$2.50.
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