

# The Son of Temperance.

VOL. II.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1881.

No. 10.

## The Good of the Order.

### In His Keeping.

BY HOWARD N. FULLER.

The wind was cold, the snow lay deep  
And covered everything;  
I wondered, as I looked without  
And heard the sparrows sing,  
How they could be so well-content,  
With all things else so drear,  
And earth and sky gave out no sign,  
Their little hearts to cheer.

For days, perhaps, they had not found  
Sufficiency of food,  
And though their lives in peril lay,  
Yet happy was their mood;  
And puffing out their feathery coats  
To keep their bodies warm,  
They sang in such a joyous strain,  
As spoke no thought of harm.

I blessed the faith that e'en in birds,  
Makes sorrow to be sweet,  
And was about to go below,  
'To throw them crumbs to eat,  
When twittering all, in glad accord,  
They flew down from the tree.  
I lifted quick the window-sash,  
That I the cause might see.

My eyes beheld a precious sight,—  
Clad in his first-worn frock,  
Dispensing life and joy, my babe  
Was caring for the flock.  
Ah, then, I said, why should we fear  
To rest in God alone!  
In famine's gloom, at plenty's noon,  
He careth for His own.

## Our Cause in Maryland.

BY THOMAS L. POULSON, D.D.

MARYLAND has ever been one of the most active and advanced States of the nation on the temperance question. At every stage of the reform she has been found abreast of her sisters in the zeal and intelligence of her temperance workers, as well as in the vigour and persistency of the friends of the drink-traffic. The irrepressible conflict has been hotly waged within her borders for a half-century or more without much abatement of intensity at any period of that eventful time. Some apparent defeats have been suffered, but not a few decided and permanent victories have been achieved for the cause on this battle-field.

Our metropolis, Baltimore, gave birth to the famous Washington-

ian movement in the year 1840, and from this centre and by that method went the vital thrill that afforded hope and redemption to thousands of human wrecks who might otherwise have drifted and split upon the rocks of doom.

In Baltimore City in 1853 an entire temperance ticket was elected to all the municipal offices and to the State Legislature, showing the profound and widespread temperance sentiment prevailing here at that time. In all probability, no such event has ever transpired in the history of any other large city of our country.

The Sons of Temperance were strong and zealous in the State in *ante-bellum* times, and, remaining intact during the trying years of the civil strife, subsequently became the nucleus of renewed and more vigorous developments when the war-clouds were dissolved.

Other temperance organizations have sprung into active operation in our midst at different dates since the late war, but none perhaps so zealous and popular as the Good Templars, who soon spread over the State, and for a time accomplished a grand work. Then came the Jonadabs, who were full of fire and convictions, and captured many stubborn ramparts which they still hold. Meantime what was termed a reform movement was inaugurated and conducted among us by reformed men, through which means thousands of moderate drinkers and drunkards were induced to sign a pledge of total abstinence from the use of intoxicating drinks, many of whom remain to this day.

In May, 1873, one of the largest and most respectable State temperance conventions assembled in Baltimore that had ever been held in the commonwealth. It was composed of delegates from churches, schools, temperance and

other moral reform societies, and embraced some of the very *elite* from among the cultured and influential men and women of the State. At this meeting a Maryland State Temperance Alliance was organized, with carefully-prepared constitution and by-laws, and a full board of efficient officers. The objects of this organization, as set forth in their platform, were two-fold—viz.: 1. To unite the churches, temperance societies, and outside friends of the cause in a common and combined effort to resist the encroachments of the rum-power, and to advance the interests of the reform more particularly by legislative enactments. 2. To adopt an educational plan by which the masses should become better informed on the practical and vital facts and exigencies of the cause. Individuals, churches, and societies were admitted to membership in the Alliance by the payment of small sums of money, which were appropriated to advancing the direct work of the organization. Rev. P. Coombe, one of the most effective temperance speakers and organizers in the country, was employed to travel over the State in order to circulate documents, to preach and lecture on the subject, and to establish county alliances auxiliary to the State society. The energies of the Alliance were specially directed to the work of procuring from the Legislature what is known as local option—*i.e.*, the privilege of voting as to whether or not the citizens wanted intoxicating liquors sold as a beverage in a given neighbourhood. This policy seemed to unify all the temperance elements in our midst. So effective were the movements of this new machinery that at the session of the Legislature just nine months after the organization of the Alliance twenty-eight thousand names appealed to that