

after signing our pledge and deriving benefit from it, would in many cases resolve to go further and become members in full. Division rooms are excellent institutions for training the young and uniting temperance workers together in such a way as to make their influence felt; but, whether they are as good as the open organizations in rescuing drunkards from their fallen condition may be safely questioned. I am glad, Mr. Editor, that the District Division will hold open meetings this winter, and hope their example will be followed by the Sons of Temperance all over the Province. It will not only rescue the fallen, but at the same time help to build up the Order,—

Yours, etc., M.

Toronto, Nov., 1879.

A VOICE FROM OTTAWA.

To the Editor,

DEAR SIR:—A few words from one who has "our cause" at heart would not be out of place just now. Your readers are aware that we have returned from our annual meeting, where all little disputes have been settled, and now we should "turn over a new leaf for 1880." Our work is before us, and as the dawn of the new year is approaching we start upon our errand and embark upon our grand crusade. We are still surrounded by a great deal of Intemperance. "It must be assailed and beaten down." Talents—God-given talents—are being squandered, fortunes wrecked, homes ruined, reputations damaged, harvests devoured, national prosperity thrown back, industries paralyzed, religion dishonored, and souls lost! We continue our testimony as of old—we abate not one jot or tittle of our protest. Love and Loyalty to our God and to the interests of our fellow-men incite us to this "Holy War." Shall we have, by and bye, or later in the day, to rebuke some that are now called, "Why stand ye here idle all the day?" I trust not, Mr. Editor. We all believe in "Total Ab-

stinence" as a good example to the young, as a hand of help to the fallen, as a grand and blessed privilege and means of doing good to others; but, Mr. Editor, we may not all agree *on all matters*, as has been seen of late.

Be it so. We can afford to differ, and yet be *one*. Parted asunder in some things, and at times "separated on the wall, one far from the other," *there are yet trumpet sounds that recall us from our petty strifes*, and compel us to close our ranks when a common foe assails us—and this is one of such occasions.

"We are not as strong as we should be in numbers;" we must join hand to hand *firmly*. What each can do, let him do it, from whatever standpoint of mind, of thought, of action, he throws the rope of safety—let him throw it, and if a life is rescued, a single soul is saved, *we will all alike rejoice!*

Let us *unitedly* strive to bring peace and prosperity to the afflicted and distressed, and God being our helper, we will yet deliver our Canada from this "heaven-cursed traffic," for we are confident in the strength of a good conscience, and in the faith of a good purpose.

The God of Hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Yours, &c.,

T. V. T.

New Edinburgh, Dec. 15, 1879.

CROAKERS.

To the Editor,

DEAR SIR.—Among the evils, which afflict all Temperance Societies, may safely be classed those persons who continually look on the dark side of things, and never open their mouths but to find fault. One of the said "croakers" strolled into our Division-room last evening, censured the members for the small attendance, told them that (with three or four exceptions) they greatly needed pluck and energy, and reminded them how prosperous the Division was when *he* attended it, etc., etc. Such instances as the above are continually occurring in every

Temperance organization, whether it be a Club, Temple or Division. It is necessary to rebuke wrongdoing; and, the more speedily and sharply it is done, so much the better for the wrong-doer. That, however, is a very different thing from finding fault with the dozen or so of members who have faithfully attended every meeting of the Division, in fair weather or foul, during the heat of summer and the cold of winter;—who have left comfortable homes on rainy evenings, merely to adjourn the meeting in half-an-hour, without accomplishing anything, and afterwards have the pleasure of a walk home in the rain, consoling themselves with the reflection that if the Division go down, at all events it will not be through them. For a "croaker," like the one of last night, who shows his face among us once in three months, to blame faithful attendants, (such as he is *not*) because they cannot make their lazy brothers (such as he *is*) come weekly to our meetings, is simply intolerable. Human nature is the same all the world over, and revolts at unjust treatment. The above evil was particularly prevalent, a short time ago, in one of our Blue Ribbon Societies. It would be a blessing if all "croakers," both male and female, could be compelled to work by themselves; but as that cannot very well be, it is surely possible to snub such parties, and it ought to be done in common justice to those whom they condemn. Nothing is more disheartening to man, woman, or child, than to be undeservedly blamed when they are doing their "level best."—Yours, &c.,

BLUE RIBBON.

Toronto, Dec., 1879.

Miscellaneous.

Sons of Temperance—their Objects and Principles.

AS the success of reformatory movements depends upon organization and united effort, and as individuals are better able to resist temptation by being brought within a circle of fraternal love and sympathy, attention