

THE ABSTAINER.

A FAMILY JOURNAL,

DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, LITERATURE, INTELLIGENCE, &c.

F. MONAGHAN.....

Fidelity,--Union--Perseverance.....

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Poetry.

A WIND IN THE STREET.

A country wind is in the street:
'Tis blowing soft, 'tis blowing sweet;
How fresh it falls on cheek and eyes!
'Tis kissing us from Paradise.
Oh it has travelled sea and height,
On thymy flowers, the red and white,
O'er golden gorse and rosy bells
That spread their splendor to the dells;
It slumbered all a perfumed night
On hundred hues of blossoms bright;
And shook its wings in glowing skies,
Where lost in blue the planet dies;
And sped away to farm and fold,
All touched with morning's early gold.
It leaped upon the sleeping lake,
And waked the fawns with waving brake;
It rustled through the leaf-hung deeps
Where'er the shy-eyed squirrel leaps,
And out on grass and plow in line,
With song of birds and low of kine;
And now 'tis in the mist-blue street.
But newly thronged with passing feet!
Why blows it here so light and glad
On many a forehead dark and sad?
It is that God's immortal love,
From radiant plains in heaven above,
Has suddenly, in pity, come
To visit Man's o'erwearied home,
And breathes a breath of hope and life.

—Chamber's Journal.

Temperance and Religion.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

Being a union of the "Church of England and Ireland Temperance Reformation Society," and the "Manchester, Chester, and Ripon Diocesan Society."

I. For the promotion of habits of temperance.

II. For the reformation of the intemperate.

III. For the removal of the causes which lead to intemperance.

Mainly in accordance with the recommendations contained in the reports of the committees on intemperance presented to the convocations of Canterbury and York.

Presidents:

His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury.
His Grace the Archbishop of York.
Head offices: London and Manchester.
The special objects aimed at by the Society are—

I. Moral, Educational and Social.

II. Legislative (see convocation reports).

I.—FOR NON-ABSTAINERS AND ABSTAINERS.

1. Explaining and enforcing the provisions of the law.

2. The formation of a sound public opinion as to the connection between intemperance and the undue facilities and temptations provided by the present public-house system.

3. The progressive diminution of the number of public-houses and beer-shops as public opinion may permit.

4. The alteration of the character of "tipping-houses," by bringing them back to the original form of "victualling and refreshment houses."

5. The closing of public-houses and beer-shops on Sunday, (except to travellers) and the limitation of the hours of sale on week days, as public opinion may permit.

6. The dissociation of music-halls and dancing rooms from public-houses.

7. The strengthening of the hands of magistrates in the exercise of their power for the curtailment of facilities for the sale of intoxicating liquors.

8. The giving to local public opinion its due share in conjunction with the existing authorities, in the granting or refusing of licenses, and in the regulation of public-houses and beer-shops.

9. The removal of benefit, friendly, and burial clubs, and the discouragement of the payment of wages at public-houses.

10. The promotion of "British Workman" public-houses, recreation grounds, and other counteractions to the ordinary public-house.

11. The discouraging of the present system of "treating" in business and commercial transactions, and the "footing" custom amongst workmen.

12. The preparation of lesson books for reading in the national schools of the country with special teaching on the moral, social, and physical evils resulting from intemperance.

13. The diffusion of correct and reliable information by temperance literature, tracts, and other publications; by sermons, lectures, and readings; by addresses to members of the universities, theological colleges, and training colleges for teachers; and also by missionary efforts in prisons, workhouses, and other places where the victims of intemperance are usually found.

14. The promotion of union for special prayer throughout the country for the Divine blessing upon the temperance movement.

II.—FOR ABSTAINERS FROM INTOXICATING DRINKS.

15. The establishment of parochial temperance societies, guilds, and bands of hope based on the principle of total abstinence, under the superintendence or with the sanction of the parochial clergy, as the proved and most effectual means of bringing the intemperate under the teaching and power of the Gospel, and so setting them free from the bondage of their sin, and of preserving others from the abounding temptations of the day.

MANIFESTO OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

The report of the committee on intemperance of the convocation of Canterbury—recently followed by a similar one presented to the convocation of York—has now been before the church and country for more than three years. As yet no steps have been taken to give effect to its recommendations by any united and organized system of action.

In the meanwhile events have given additional urgency to the need for such organization. The attempt to diminish the far-reaching and acknowledged evils of intemperance by vigorous legislation has been met by the development of a power, within and without the walls of Parliament, too formidable to be regarded with anything but sorrow and apprehension.

On the other hand the frequent discussions which have taken place have awakened an interest in the whole subject very different from the apathy which prevailed in former years. The present aspect of the country may be said to be one of anxious expectation—watching the results of recent legislation, and waiting for the impulse to be given to the moral and social agencies in which the hope of the future must lie.

In this critical emergency the Church of England seems called upon to supply the organization. The Church of England Temperance Societies of London and Manchester have already for ten years past been working upon many of the lines laid down in the convocation reports. For the reformation of the intemperate they have organized, and have proved the signal efficacy of parochial temperance societies. As preventive measures they have established juvenile societies, and, through their publications, have advocated all the subsidiary agencies, such as working men's rooms, improved house accommodation, and the like. They have contributed in no slight degree to the recent legislative changes. The agitation for the repeal of the "Beer-shop Act of 1830" was originated by the London Society, and persistently carried on through a special committee for five years prior to the virtual repeal by the passing of the "Wine and Beer-shop Amendment Act of 1869." The "National Association for the Amendment of the Liquor Laws," which for nearly four years has been pressing on the restrictive policy embodied in the Act of 1872—such as the early closing, the better regulation, and by indirect means, the reduction of the number of public-houses—did but enter upon the programme already laid down by the Beer-shop Repeal Committee. The present movement for Sunday closing had its origin, and has found its chief supporters, among the members of the Manchester committee.

The London and Manchester committees have therefore felt that it needed but the fuller development of these several agencies, the addition of others mentioned in the reports, and their comprehension in one general society, to ensure the existence of an organization which should worthily represent the Church of England in the great crusade against intemperance and bring all its members, desirous of taking part in it, into active co-operation.

In adopting the recommendations of the two reports of Convocation as a basis of extended operations, the committees do not suppose that these recommendations, severally, will command universal assent; much less would they assume to act as the mouthpiece of Convocation. Their object is rather, without prejudice to any further action of the Convocation committees, to provide a platform for immediate effort on which every earnest-minded of the Church, whether abstainer or non-abstainer, who feels the reproach of our national intemperance, and desires to bear a part in taking it away, shall see his own views more or less represented and shall carry them into action, while, side by side with him in the same society, others no less earnest are working out theirs.

From whatever side the question is approached it is the want of associated effort on the part of members of the Church which reveals itself as the great source of weakness in the past; it is the rectifying of that want which must give the best hope of success in the future; and as to carry out the vigorous and comprehensive crusade which is now contemplated, large funds will be needed, the first appeal of the committee must be to the wealthy members of the Church, to put them in a position which shall enable them at once to spread their network of organization throughout the two provinces.

It is proposed to raise at once a guarantee fund of £10,000 for five years.

Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received, and can be paid to the secretaries direct, or to the account of the treasurers at the bankers.

Vice-Presidents:

Francis Close, D. D., the Deanery, Carlisle.
W. Romaine Callender, J. P., D. L., Mauldeth Hall, Manchester.
John Sandford, B. D., Archdeacon of Coventry, Alvechurch Rectory, Redditch.
James Bardsley, M. A. Hon. Canon of Manchester, St. Ann's Rectory, Manchester.

Chairmen:

Henry J. Ellison, M. A. Hon. Canon of Oxford, The Vicarage, Windsor.
Thomas Dale, F. G. H. S., Bank House, Hatherlow, Manchester.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

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The Very Rev. the Dean of Carlisle.
The Ven. Archdeacon Sandford B. D.
Rev. Canon Bardsley, M. A.
W. Romaine Callender, Esq. J. P., D. L.

Treasurers.

London: Robert Baxter, Esq. [Messrs. Baxter, Rose and Norton.]
Manchester: Robert Whitworth, Esq. Messrs. Benjamin Whitworth and Bros.]

General Secretaries:

Rev. R. O. West, 6 Adam-street, Adelphi, Strand, London, W. C.
Mr. W. D. B. Autrobus, City Buildings, 69 Corporation-street, Manchester.

Bankers.

London: Messrs. Bevan, Barclay, and Co.
Manchester: Messrs. Heywood, Brothers, and Co.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

The affairs of the society shall be managed by a council and two committees, viz:

I. A council for the general management of the society.

II. A committee for legislative, social, and educational purposes.

III. A committee specially for the promotion of total abstinence principles and objects.

I.—THE COUNCIL.

1. The council shall consist of forty-eight members, who shall be donors of not less than £5, or annual subscribers of not less than 10s. to the funds of the society. There shall be no ex-officio members of the council.

2. It shall be elected annually by members, at meetings to be held in London and Manchester immediately before the anniversary meeting of the society in London in May, one half of the council being elected at the meeting in London for the Province of Canterbury, and the other half in Manchester for the Province of York.

3. Not fewer than one half of the members of council elected for each Province shall be total abstainers.

4. The Council shall have the general management of the United Society; the disbursement of the guarantee or common fund; the organization of diocesan meetings; and the publication of magazines, tracts and other literature; and shall at its quarterly meeting vote towards the expenses of the several committees an equal sum to each province.

5. The Council shall at its first meeting annually elect presidents, vice-presidents and treasurers, and for each province—[I] a committee for legislative and social purposes; [II] a committee for total abstinence purposes.

Each of these committees shall consist of not fewer than twenty-four members, and the whole of the members of the I. committee shall be total abstainers.

6. There shall be two general secretaries, one at London, and one at Manchester, holding their appointments from the Council, and representing, each in his own province the whole society.

7. Meetings of the council shall be held quarterly, at London and Manchester alternately, for the transaction of business, and for the filling up of all vacancies in its offices or in the committees.

COUNCIL:

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Hon Secs.

MEMBERS.

II.—THE LEGISLATIVE AND SOCIAL COMMITTEES.

1. These committees shall meet in London and Manchester respectively, monthly or as often as may be deemed necessary, and especially during the session of Parliament, to carry out the operations which may from time to time be resolved on by the council to concert other measures within the lines laid down by the society, and to consider all questions which belong to this department of the society's operations.

2. They shall elect at their first meetings annually chairmen and hon. secretaries for each province, and from time to time fill up such vacancies as may arise.

3. They shall have power to adopt by-laws and regulations for their own management and operations.

Present Committee.—Vice-Presidents:

Southern Branch:

Chairman: Sir Harcourt Johnson, Bart., M. P.
Hon Sec.: H. C. Greenwood, Esq.

Northern Branch:

Chairman: J. A. Bremner, Esq., J. P., Hon. Sec.:

Committees to be formed according to rule.

III.—THE TOTAL ABSTINENCE COMMITTEES.

1. These committees shall meet in London and Manchester respectively, monthly or as often as may be deemed necessary, to carry out the operations which may from time to time be resolved on by the council, to concert other measures within the lines laid down by the society, and to consider all questions which belong to this department of the society's operations.

2. They shall elect at their first meeting annually, chairmen and hon. secretaries for each province, and from time to time fill up such vacancies as may arise.