

He then spoke of the investigations he had made in the city of Omaha. He first went to the Educational Department and from the superintendent he learned that there were in that city 7 schools, with 84 teachers, and about an average of 108 graduates every year; and this in a city of 35,000 inhabitants. With these facts in his possession he then paid a visit to the superintendent of the grogeries, the chairman of the police committee, and elicited the fact that he had under his supervision 155 licensed schools, with 400 teachers (bar-hops included) attending to the appetites of the scholars, and an average of 1265 graduates to whom he had issued diplomas, and from whom he had collected fines in the shape of fines in the police courts during the year. Is not this the greatest drawback to representative Government on this continent?—the curse that is eating into the vitals of the country year after year. During the time of the Pittsburg riots, when the railway shops were in flames, the mayor issued the order "Close every grog-shop in the city until further orders from headquarters." The same thing was done during the Cincinnati riots. If it is a good thing to shut up the grogeries to assist in putting down a riot, wouldn't it be a good deal better to shut them up altogether to prevent one? (Applause.) Why was not an order issued to close the churches and public schools? There is a barrier of death existing between the educational system and the grog-shop; and he could not see the good of supporting schools to make a man of a boy, and then licensing grogeries to make ruffian of him, and hiring a policeman to club him over the head.

Some people would say "Mr. Finch, wouldn't you make a difference between distilled and fermented liquors." "Yes, I would do away with fermented liquors first." Then he went on to show that the process of distilling liquors was not discovered until 1100 years after Christ. It was held a secret by the alchymists of Europe for a long time. Whiskey has a history of less than 400 years. The drunkenness of beer and wine was the drunkenness of Babylon and other ancient cities—the most beastly intoxication the world has ever seen. Who ever advocated the continuance of wine and beer and the abolition of spirits looked history in the face and lied. A boy who drank beer would drink whiskey before he was a man.

Mr. Finch then illustrated the manner in which boys were initiated into the ways of drinking by the social bulldozing of lunatics, and the allurements placed in their way by saloon keepers. Billiards were placed in a saloon for the same reason that a housewife places cheese on a mouse-trap.

"How does the law work in your country?" One says, "It is a failure in Maine." People who live under a law ought to know something about it. Mr. J. G. Blaine, the Presidential candidate, was the idol of the State of Maine. Yet prohibition went through with 45,000 majority, a majority of 28,000 votes over what Mr. Blaine received above his opponent. There were numerous arrests for drunkenness in Portland, and there is, as reported, extensive pauperism in Maine. But why? If a man was seen under the influence of liquor in Portland he was arrested as a valuable witness against some illicit grog-shop. In Toronto, a man is not arrested unless he is unable to walk home, or acting in a disorderly manner. Very often the police will order a carriage to convey him home, if he is able to pay for it. Every one in Maine who was assisted to the worth of five cents was entered as a pauper. He was quite willing to place money in any bank in Toronto to cover the expenses of a three weeks' trip for any one in the audience who would travel through Maine and come back and say honestly that he had seen one-tenth of the drinking there that could be seen in Ontario. (Enthusiastic and continued applause.)

MR. W. C. WILKINSON moved "That the hearty thanks of this audience be tendered to the eloquent lecturer of this evening."

Rev. JNO. SMITH, in seconding the motion, referred to the baneful effects of the treating system, and urged every man present to take notice of the clear illustrations of Mr. Finch.

The resolution was supported by Rev. Mr. Halsted, and carried, amidst enthusiastic applause.

After the lecture a large number came forward and signed the pledge.

At intervals during the evening the choir of the W.E.C.T.S. sang hymns, which were joined in by the audience.

## Sons of Temperance.

### THE ONTARIO GRAND DIVISION.

The annual session of the Ontario Grand Division was held at Kings-ton, commencing on Tuesday the 2nd inst. The G. W. P., John Mc-Millan, Esq., presiding. The attendance of representatives was not as large as on some previous occasions, but there were present many well-known veterans in the cause of temperance reform. We have not yet received a full list of those in attendance.

The Grand Worthy Patriarch delivered his annual address, from which we make the following extracts:—

It is with feelings of profound gratitude to Almighty God for all his mercies to us, during the past year, and for the continued prosperity of our Order, that I meet with you to-day in this thirty-seventh Annual Session of our Grand Division, and I trust that our meeting together will result in great good to the Order which we represent and the great cause in which we are fellow-workers.

The prospects for the future are brighter and more encouraging than they have ever been before, and our hearts are filled with joy and gladness as we note with satisfaction the deep interest taken in the question of Temperance and Prohibition by all classes of people in this province. The dawn of a brighter day is breaking, and ere long we may confidently expect to see a comprehensive Prohibitory Liquor Law enacted by the Parliament of this Dominion, which will not only embrace every county in the province, but every province in the Dominion.

During the past year I have endeavored to give that care and attention to our Subordinate Divisions, which I have found to be absolutely necessary, in order to keep alive all that aggressive spirit without which no Division can hope to retain its membership. I have continued to visit as much as possible various portions of the jurisdiction and my only regret is that I have been unable to do more in that respect. However, with the aid of my Deputies, whose labors demand our hearty thanks for their zeal and attention to their duties, the Order has grown in strength and usefulness, and I am in a position to inform you that during my two years of service as Grand Worthy Patriarch, we have nearly doubled our membership and greatly increased our income. The Order is in a healthy and prosperous condition, the finances of the Grand Division are on a sound and permanent basis, our revenue from per capita tax is greatly in excess of the corresponding term last year, and we have a small revenue from invested money which will be considerably increased in the near future.

During the past year much of the work done in the way of organization has been performed by my Deputies, whose zeal and energy in this direction have helped very materially in building up the Order. At the present time we have an efficient staff of organizers prepared to carry on the campaign during the coming winter, and my successor in office will be able to continue the work without any loss of time, which is a matter of considerable importance to us at this season of the year. Upwards of forty Divisions have been organized since our last Annual Session, and several old Divisions have been resuscitated. Taking everything into consideration, the prospects for an increase of membership during the next twelve months are very encouraging, and with care and attention the Order should and will make considerable progress.

In my last Annual Report I remarked that the County of Halton was at that time the only County in the Province where we had carried the Scott Act. Since then, however, matters have undergone considerable change, and at the present time we have to report the Act carried in ten Counties in the Province with a majority of 9,190 votes, and the attempt to repeal the Act in the County of Halton defeated by an increased majority. In the Halton contest all the power at the command of the liquor interest was brought to bear in the County, large sums of money were spent in order to reverse the verdict, bribery was indulged in, and other disreputable tactics were resorted to in vain. On a battle field of their own choice and at a time selected by themselves, the liquor interest suffered a most crushing defeat and the result of the Halton election sent a thrill of joy throughout the whole Dominion and infused new life and energy into the temperance ranks. In this County I thought it desirable to render assistance as a Grand Division, and in addition to the sum already voted by this body I appealed to the Subordinate Divisions for further contributions; the appeal was responded to very liberally. Acting under advice and in accord with my own judgment, I sent P.G.W.P., Bro. J. W. Manning to their assistance, his eloquent addresses were highly appreciated, and duly acknowledged, as was also the Financial assistance given by the Order. A memorandum of the amount contributed and manner of its disposal will be submitted to you during the Session, and will I trust meet with your approval.

Before closing this part of my report I would impress upon your minds the necessity there is for keeping your Subordinate Division in active operation in those counties where the Scott Act has been carried, and warn you not to be lulled into any false security by our present success.

Of all the agencies engaged in this crusade, none are deserving of more honorable mention than that body of workers known as the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. They have proved themselves to be a powerful auxiliary to the forces already engaged, and have rendered the cause valuable assistance. Woman's work and woman's influence has done much towards moulding public opinion in favor of the abolition of the Liquor Traffic. To the women of this province, we owe a debt of gratitude for their untiring efforts in behalf of the common cause against women's greatest enemy.

I think I would be guilty of an unpardonable offence if I did not draw your attention to the great service rendered the cause of Temperance and Prohibition by the newspaper Press of this Province, which have, with a few exceptions, espoused our cause and given us valuable assistance, not only by well written and pointed editorials bearing on the question, but by