

to press on with renewed determination, and with humble dependence upon God, and believing their work to be in accordance with His gracious will, confidently to expect the time when

" Might, with the right and truth shall be,
For come what may, to stand in the way,
That day the world shall see."

Signed on behalf of the Executive Committee.

ROBT. IRWIN, *Sec'y.*

Moved by Rev. D. Ross, seconded by Rev. George Douglas, L.L.D. and

Resolved,—That the report just read be adopted, printed and circulated, and that the several committees be requested to consider carefully the portions referring to the subjects committed to them respectively.

The President then addressed the League as follows :

I am glad to see that the report covers so much ground. In seeking for the passing of a prohibitory liquor law, the report alludes to the necessity for co-operating in the cause with the French citizens of the Province of Quebec. Religious differences should not prevent a unanimous support of this great social question of temperance reform. The combined action of all classes and creeds is required to effect the revolution. Temperance is not a question of race or creed but of humanity. At present there are many difficulties to be overcome. Our finances are insufficient, and we meet with a strenuous opposition from a certain class of the community. I am glad to see practical efforts being made from the pulpit. The more the nation becomes interested in the good cause, the more do the truths become familiar. There is a great lack of interest on the subject; and one of our objects should be to avail ourselves of all local means of agitation and enlightenment. We can use the Sunday and day schools, the press and the pulpit. All these instrumentalities are more or less at our command, and it is through them we must elevate the standard of public sentiment. The middle classes of the community are those from whom we must expect the largest support; not from the highest or lowest. The middle classes, strong and stalwart in their views of right and wrong, are those who represent and are the exponents of public opinion. They are such as no Governor, or body of rulers, dare for any length of time to set at defiance; for these reasons the efforts of the League should be directed to the middle classes. It is also necessary to raise the leading members of society to a higher standard of rectitude. People look up to those who occupy high official and social positions, from whom goes forth a most powerful influence. These require to be set right. They are on a different plane from the community at large, and for that reason methods must be arranged by which to reach their stations. Neither by ridicule nor by envy, can we as temperance reformers influence them. I am sorry to know that at social gatherings, the majority of the upper circles of society set up a kind of standard to which all are expected to bow. The young say this is a pattern for us, and they err accordingly. Such a state of things must be overturned. The time has come for action. There are strong men of stout hearts following, or yielding to this slavery who will gladly rise above it, if there is a way opened. It rests with temperance men to meet the emergency. Perhaps one mode will be a more open discussion on the subject in the public prints and letting our rulers and friends know the obligations they owe to society, and also in a moral point of view what a responsibility they hold with regard to the morality and prosperity of the nation.