

only take the other contests and you find the same results. I take the constituency of East Middlesex because the Liberal candidate in that contest was a man who was distinctly a temperance man in his life, in his profession, and in every other way. So far as I know, no one ever suggested the contrary. Now let us see what happened in that constituency. Take the Township of London, which only the January preceding had voted on local option and came within one or two votes of carrying it by sixty per cent., which meant that this township was a very strong local option township, but this township is as well about sixty per cent. Conservative. If there should be any doubt about this see the bye-election returns of a few months later when the hon. gentleman who represents East Middlesex in this House and on this side of it found that he had received practically the same percentage of the vote in London Township that had been cast for local option a few months before. I do not propose to draw unfair deductions from that. But I do say this: that every time the hon. member or anyone behind him stands upon the public platform and attempts to say to Conservative or Liberal that the Conservatives are allied with the liquor interests, he does a direct and lasting injury to the cause that the temperance people are advocating. I can establish it by actual facts; I can establish it by names I could repeat, but which I am not going to repeat here to-day. When the question of local option has been on in the past what has happened? Conservative and Liberal electors have gone arm-in-arm to the little red schoolhouse and have polled their votes according to their best judgment, and that without reference to politics, and they have come back without discussing partisan politics at all. But in the bye-election in East Middlesex it has been said to Conservative voters, "You must come behind our Liberal candidate or I won't go behind local option when it comes up in January next." That actually happened in East Middlesex in the first bye-election, and in more than one part of East Middlesex. I want to say that just the moment that kind of thing appears, it means that one of the most serious blows that could be struck is being dealt to the cause of temperance.