

*He read from
the Book*

steps on the porch, and then the Chief Templar entered, alone, and resumed his place as head of the Order. He began to read from the book, just as if he were reading from Proverbs:

Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine? Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder.

"In view of the evening's entertainment," said Tom Jones, interrupting, "part of which is to be a debate, I move an adjournment of the regular meeting, especially as there are no candidates for initiation."

Mrs. Simmons bobbed up and down, like a flash, and then, like an echo, the faint sound of her voice reached us:

"I second the motion."

Maria Smith rose immediately, in full regalia, and said that as it was a temperance lodge and not a debating society, temperance should come first.

Ted Smale's hired man, standing up at the back and pulling at the tinsel on his regalia, said he believed that them as be temperance should remain temperance and them as bain't shouldn't.

The minister said that as nobody had moved an amendment it would be in order for the chair to put the motion.

Mrs. Simmons bobbed up and down again, like another flash, and then we heard, just like another echo, the sound of her voice piping faintly,

"I withdraw."

"Then I second the motion," said Maria Smith, very inconsistently, as everyone agreed, but Maria as she sat down again, only drew her lips a little tighter and folded her hands on her lap.

"All in favour," shouted the Chief, as he saw several members rising.

A dozen hands went up, a huge majority, and the gavel came down.

"I now call on Miss Lizzie Lavery," said the Chief, "for a solo entitled, 'The Cows are in the Corn'."

Lizzie sang, unaccompanied, as only Lizzie could sing, and after prolonged applause she obliged by singing a song entitled "The Walkerton Murder", after which the Chief Templar announced the subject of the debate—resolved that the work of man is greater than the work of nature—named the judges and proceeded to make his introduction. He took North America for instance. When our forefathers crossed

*North
America for
Instance*