

Good Templars' Department.

TRUTH is the Official Organ of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

T. W. CASEY, G. W. Secretary, Editor.

Grand Lodge of Canada.

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P. G. C. W., Rev. John Shaw, Peterboro.
Next annual session to be held at Toronto fourth Tuesday in June, 1881.

Official Circular.

RIGHT WORTHY GRAND SECRETARY,
Kearney, Neb., Sept. 1893.

To All Grand Secretaries:—

Annual return sheets will be sent to all Grand Lodges the ensuing week. Grand Secretaries are requested to fill out and return to this office immediately after the close of their annual session.

THE OFFICIAL CIRCULAR.—The second number of the Official Circular will be issued October 10th, next, and will contain several new features. Those desiring copies will inform me by early mail, as the demand last quarter warrants the printing of a much larger edition this quarter.

THE MISSION WORK.—The work of building up weak and struggling jurisdictions has been kept steadily going since my last circular.

OHIO.—There is a concentration of work and workers during the present month, in the State of Ohio to carry the amendment pending there.

Send contributions direct to Harry D. White, G. W. T., Toledo, Ohio.

F. G. KEENS,
Right Worthy Grand Secretary.

The Good Templars.

We have learned much of this society of late, through their open Lodge meetings, their entertainments for the benefit of their grand movement of benevolence, the "Good Templars' Home for Orphans," located at Vallejo, which has cost them over \$200,000; over five hundred children have gone out from this home where they have received Christian training and temperance instructions, combined with a full course of mental discipline as taught in our public schools. It is said that over 60 applicants have been refused of late for lack of accommodation. May God open the hearts of our men of means to give to this noblest of all charities the making of a home for the homeless. There are now 20,000 Good Templars in the State, with a recruiting force of 15,000 in the Bands of Hope where the triple pledge is taken, not to take the name of God in vain, not to use intoxicating liquor, or use the filthy weed, tobacco. This order is thoroughly Christian in its plan of work. Their motto is "Faith, Hope and Charity," their object is to lift the fallen, and save others from falling. Their ritual is full of partial quotations from the Bible, both Old and New Testament. There are five good active Lodges in our city; two in Oakland proper, one each in North, East and West Oakland. May God speed them in this noble mission of man's redemption.—Y. M. O. A. Bulletin, Oakland.

Manitoba.

At the annual meeting of the Right Worthy Grand Lodge held at Chicago in May last, a petition was presented from the Local Committee of Winnipeg asking for a charter for the province of Manitoba and North-west Territory, which was granted. Since that time the local committee have been hard at work getting matters into

shape. All the lodges in the Province and the North-west Territories have appointed their representatives. An application for the charter was forwarded to F. G. Keens, R. W. G. Secretary, Kearney, Neb., on the 5th of September and on the 28th of that month Bro. Wm. Blackard, secretary of the local committee received the charter, books and rituals, etc., Bro. Blackard also received for the Hon. J. W. Sifton a Deputy Grand Worthy Templar's Commission, as organizer of the Grand Lodge, which has been forwarded to that gentleman. As soon as the several subordinate lodges can be communicated with and necessary local arrangements completed, which will probably be during the latter half of this month, the organization will be effected. While regretting that this "new departure" will take a considerable slice off the jurisdiction of the parent Grand Lodge we cannot help thinking that the interests of Good Templary in Manitoba and the North-west will be better served by being set apart as a separate jurisdiction, than by maintaining the relations with the Grand Lodge of Canada which have existed for so many years. We are sure the new addition to the list of Canadian Grand Lodges will start out with the very best wishes of its sister Grand Lodges and the hearty God-speed of the jurisdiction which is now limited to the province of Ontario.—Casket.

The Order Abroad.

The Grand Lodge of California commenced its annual session in San Francisco on Tuesday week, with a large attendance of representatives and visitors. This Grand Lodge has had a very successful year.

The Grand Lodge of Tennessee meets in Nashville on the 16th inst. It is expected the reports to be presented will show the Order to be in a flourishing condition in that State.

The Grand Lodge of Oregon at its recent annual session adopted the following resolution:—"Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge ask the faculty of each college and university of the State to adopt Dr. Richardson's 'Temperance Lesson Book' as a text-book. Resolved, That we ask the State Board of Education to adopt Dr. Richardson's 'Temperance Lesson Book' as a text-book in our common schools."

The Grand Lodge of West Virginia met in eighteenth annual session at Ellenboro, on the 24th of September. The reports of the officers showed the order to be in a healthy condition in that jurisdiction. There are eight working lodges and the membership of 535, among whom lively enthusiasm prevails. The following are the officers elected:—

G. W. O. T.—Dr. T. H. Buck.

G. W. Conn.—M. T. Hout.

G. W. V. T.—Miss Ettie Reed.

G. W. Sec'y.—J. B. Morgan.

G. W. T.—Thomas Strickler.

G. S. J. T.—Robert Platt.

The next meeting of the Grand Lodge will be held at Paw Paw, Sept. 12, 1884.

During the recent session of the Grand Lodge of Illinois a magnificent banner was presented to that body on behalf of Messrs. G. F. Foster, Sons & Co., of Chicago, the same firm which presented the prize banner to the Knights Templar at their conclave in that city some three years ago.

The Stanislaus District Lodge, California, resolved at its recent meeting to demand of the State legislature the submission to the popular vote of a prohibiting constitutional amendment, and in the event of that being

done to "fight for prohibition till the bitter end, even should it take us the balance of our natural lives," which is very much like Californian spirit and pluck.

Spoopendyko.

A solid, faithful, cheerful, and happy Good Templar visited a neighbor lodge not long ago. Remaining a few minutes in the ante-room he heard a Sloopendyko article read inside, which seemed to be received very approvingly by the hearers. Some one desired the visitor, should he be called on, to say what he deemed was the reason the Lodge did not prosper as it should. He did so and gave it as his opinion that a Lodge that is interested in such literature as Sloopendyko and permits it to be a part of its Good of the Order, need not expect to make any progress for the better.

Mr. Sloopendyko the hero of the nonsense is a selfish, brutal, tyrannical blackguard, who is cruel, domineering and ruffianly in his treatment of his wife. His wit is of such a low flat type, as to be simply disgusting. His slang and his muffled blasphemy are so filthy as to be utterly outside of the outer boundary of fun.

If there were such a character among us, he would be execrated and shunned by all respectable people. Virtuous parents would specially instruct their children to shun his presence as they would that of a rattlesnake. And still people were reading his nasty jargon in that Lodge.

This judgment of the Sloopendyko literature is founded on a perusal of two of the articles and one sentence each of two other ones, which was all that a well conditioned stomach would permit.

Then there is another wretched, demoralizing prostitution of wit, "The Bad Boy," equally pernicious. It makes a hero of a boy who is an utterly abominable liar and delights chiefly in dishonoring his father and his mother; lying to them and playing brutal monkey tricks upon them and causing them much suffering and damage.

If such stories as "The Bad Boy" are read in families and are laughed at, and the tricks applauded, the effect is to create an ambition in the boys of the family to be the heroes of similar freaks themselves—to lie and deceive their parents and elders—to be tricky and dishonest—to be hoodlum heroes.

It is not desired to curtail or condemn the fun and frolic of the young folks; but surely we can provide an abundance of pleasurable, wholesome amusement and the most frolicsome fun, and draw a strict impassable line between the realm of fun and that of falsehood and rowdiness.

It may be worth while to enquire, if the constant, copious feeding of the youthful mind upon literary fiction, even in the Sunday school and religious libraries, to the prejudice of a taste for history, biography, fact and all solid truth, no matter how attractively presented—has not exercised a demoralizing influence upon us as a nation. Do we not already, as a people, crave the marvellous, the romantic, the impossible, the exaggerated, rather than the true, the beautiful, the noble?—Rescue.

Pithy Paragraphs.

Fill the lodge-room and you will empty the beer gardens.

The Juvenile Temple is the best Temperance school in existence.

Work outside of the lodge-room will create interest inside the membership.

Lodges are organized to accomplish an end, not for personal pleasure or emolument.

The Alabama Good Templars are doing

good work, growing in members and influence. Good for Alabama.

Every member of the lodge owes duties, first. To himself or herself; second; to the Order; thirdly: to the world.

If you do not thoroughly understand Good Templary, what would you do if asked by some one to define our platform?

Enforce the payment of dues on your members; but if a brother or sister is too poor to pay, secretly make it up between a few of you, pay it and hold your member.

Why do our lodges not try to build lodges-halls for themselves, and let their trustees make arrangements to apply their quarterly rents, otherwise paid out, on the liquidation of the bills? Do this and you secure a greater interest among the members, and a more business-like hold upon the community.

You will see that one of our lodges, when at its best, is not only a body pledged to one of the holiest of benevolent objects, that carries along with it not only the promotion of morality and religion, but the increase of comfort, property and happiness. In addition to this blessed purpose—the advance of temperance, with all its attendant good—Lodge is a social institution where friends meet for social enjoyment. It is the means of literary and intellectual improvement by means of addresses, essays, readings and recitations. It is a means of musical enjoyment and cultivation, through its vocal and instrumental entertainments, as well as by the use of music as a part of its ritual. And then the crowning excellence of the system is that men and women, young men and maidens, are equally enlisted in the great cause, all alike using their influence for good to others, and all alike having it in their power to improve and benefit themselves.

A GRAND JURY PRESENTMENT.—At the Assizes at Whitby, Ont., on the 19th of September, the presentment of the Grand Jury contained the following recommendation:—"The Grand Jury beg to express their belief that more stringent legislation is required for the regulation of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, and in their opinion the law should be so amended as to prohibit the sale of liquors except from packages or vessels bearing a Government inspector's stamp, showing the kind and strength of liquor therein, and that the sale of drinks differing in their composition from those so inspected, as such inspected liquors, should be made a criminal offence; that dealers in liquors should be prohibited from exposing their liquors to public view, and from selling liquors except by measure. The Grand Jury are of opinion that such changes, if introduced would prevent great damage to the health of those who are now using drugged liquors, which, while they produce no revenue duty, are dangerous to the public health; and further, that the last two suggestions, if adopted, would diminish the consumption of liquor, and greatly lessen the pernicious practice of treating, which unfortunately prevails so extensively in this Province."

SCOTLAND'S ARMY.—A Parliamentary return, moved by Mr. Montague Scott, has been issued, and shows the number of convictions between Michaelmas, 1876, and the same date of 1882, of all persons arrested for drunkenness on Sunday in Scotland. The total for the six years was 13,711, of which 12,027 were in burghs and 1,639 in county districts. The highest number in any one year was 2,530, in 1882, 1878 coming next with 2,391, 1880 closely following with 2,338, whilst there were 2,151 in 1877, and only 1,886 in 1870.