

ing licences to inn-keepers, and the keeping of ale and beer houses within such Town or City, or the liberties thereof, under such By-laws as may be made for that purpose by the Municipal Corporations thereof, shall be vested in and belong to such Police Magistrate.

CXVIII. And be it enacted, That the Mayor or Police Magistrate, with any two Aldermen or Justices of the Peace for any Town or City erected or to be erected under the authority of this Act, shall have full power and authority, upon complaint made to them or any one of them, upon oath, of any riotous or disorderly conduct in the houses of any Inn or Tavern-keeper, in any such Town or City, to enquire summarily into the matter of such complaint, and for the Mayor or Police Magistrate of such Town or City, to summon such Inn or Tavern-keeper to appear to answer such complaint, and thereupon it shall be lawful for the Mayor or Police Magistrate with any two Aldermen or Justices of the Peace, to investigate the same, and to dismiss the same with costs, to be paid by the complainant, or to abrogate the license, or to suspend the benefit of the same for any period of such suspension, such Inn or Tavern-keeper shall lose all the powers privileges and protection that would otherwise have been afforded him by his said house.

The above are the sections of the New Municipal Act relating to licenses in towns and cities. The duties of the Police Magistrate are very, indeed too numerous. A fearful amount of responsibility rests upon him. It remains with him, in a great measure, to make towns and cities drunken or sober; and it requires no ordinary amount of firmness and moral courage to discharge his duty faithfully for the interests of the public.

No man, however, has a better opportunity of seeing the awfully demoralizing effects of intoxicating drinks. His daily duties bring these things continually before him. And by and by he will see arraigned at his office, for all kinds of misdemeanors, the poor culprits who were led to commit those crimes by the liquors sold in virtue of the licenses which he himself granted. Let him never forget this.

We are no enemy to tavern-keepers, or to spirit-selling grocers, but they must not be displeased with us, if we think the peace and welfare of society of greater importance than the amount of wealth they gain by this single article of traffic.

The number of tavern licenses granted in this city the past year was eighty-six, and there were many low tippling-houses besides. The population is about 10,000 or 11,000. Now, we seriously ask our city authorities, is this large number at all necessary? They have seen much of the demoralizing effects; many a poor half-starved wretch gives for liquor the money with which he should buy a loaf of bread, or some article of clothing. What will our city fathers do in the premises?—*Provincialist*.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

We understand that a Division of the Sons is about to be opened in this city, under circumstances of considerable promise. The object sought by this new organization is, the more vigorous prosecution of the Temperance movement by enlisting the sympathies and efforts of those who do not unite with the Independent Order of Rechabites, on account of their high rate of initiation fees and quarterly dues, which must be kept up to carry out the beneficial part of their Order—as well as those who regard the ordinary Temperance association as loose and defective in its organization. The Sons of Temperance have all the advantages of a complete system,—while the expense to the members in carrying it on, is much less than any other similar association. We mean no disparagement to the Order of Rechab,

which we know has done much good, and, as a benefit society, is placed on a comparatively safe basis: but the Sons, while they do not leave out the beneficial part of the order, yet do not make that its leading feature, and consider that if united and persevering effort is wanted to consummate the Temperance reformation, so far as yet known, the Sons afford that combination. Those especially, who complain of the loose and inefficient character of the ordinary Temperance society, and may not desire to contribute for any other purpose but the efficient prosecution of the Temperance reformation, object to the payment of large sums as entry money and quarterly dues, for the accumulation of a benefit fund, in which many of them take little or no interest, and which is so liable to be misapplied. It is entirely optional with the different Divisions, to determine what amount of beneficial fund they shall provide for, if any at all; in that case, the initiation fees and dues may be made to suit the views of all. One important feature in this new organization is, the establishment of a Temperance reading-room, in which some of the best Temperance periodicals in the United States and the Mother country, will be kept for the perusal of the members, to which they will be admitted free of charge. We shall keep you advised of this movement from time to time, for the benefit of your readers.—*Communicated*.

INQUEST.

We take the following from the *St. Catharines Journal*, not that we delight in chronicling such instances of the degradation to which poor fallen humanity may be brought, through the habit of sipping the cup of intoxication but that the public attention may be turned to look upon this fruitful source of crime, misery, and death, and we would hope, adopt the only safe and effectual remedy. Who can read the following without feeling that the best interests of society are deeply concerned in the success and universal adoption of our principles:—

An inquest was held on the body of Jane Wilson, on Monday the 23rd inst., by Dr. Raymond. The verdict of the Jury on that occasion was—That Jane Wilson came to her death by intoxication, having long indulged in the excessive use of ardent spirits, and particularly so at the time of her death.

Her husband gave the following history of himself to the Coroner.—About twenty-four years ago, I came to this country from Scotland, with my young wife, (the deceased.) She is about twenty-six years younger than I am. She was not fond of drinking until I urged it upon her, because two could not well agree if one drinks, and the other does not; but of late she has been so much in the habit of it, that after she drinks a little, she would kill herself drinking if she could get it. But even lately she would not commence without urging. Last Saturday I brought home two quarts and a pint of whisky. She took some when we came home, but has no recollection what took place on Sunday, he was so drunk. On Sunday evening, I mind giving her a bottle of whisky. She was lying on the bed behind me; I do not know how long I slept, but when I awoke I found her lying on the floor, near the door, the whisky all drank. When I tried to arouse her, she seemed very stupid, so I laid some pillows under her head, and lay down between her and the door to keep her warm; then I fell asleep, and when I awoke I found that she was dead. This, as I afterwards learned from the neighbors, was between eleven and twelve o'clock on Sunday night. *I was the cause of her becoming a drunkard.* She is about thirty-six or seven years old. I am now about sixty-three years old, and the most miserable being that can exist, and all this from drinking.

It is not yet one year since James Wilson was murdered in that same house, and William was tried for the murder; and at the trial, the Court House at Niagara was crowded, as is usual in such cases. The evidence was clear and distinct, and before the trial was over, not one in that house (except the sapient jury) but could have pointed out the guilty individual, but the jury returned a verdict of not Guilty! But I find the opinion of the public is not altered.—*Com.*