

declared, "This might appropriately be called un-intoxicating wine." Dr. Kerr says that a distinguished classical scholar—though a non-abstainer—who was familiar with and quoted nearly every Greek poet B. C., conceded to him "the considerable ancient use of the unfermented juice of the grape," and admitted the correctness of Dr. Kerr's description of the various ancient modes of preventing fermentation. Dr. Kerr says the ancients preferred "sweet wines," and were in the habit of boiling it to the consistence of honey, or even thicker, and drank it largely diluted with water. Dr. Kerr says, that in the many volumes he had read with reference to this wine question, he had met with numerous instances where unfermented grape-juice, and as intoxicating liquors are referred to under the genuine name of "wine." Dr. Kerr says that in standard Oriental Dictionaries, from 1684 to 1873, he finds one of the words given as meaning "wine," used in various Eastern languages, both in ancient and modern times, to denote a variety of unfermented and non-intoxicating drinks. He says that in seven different modern dictionaries he finds "sweet or unfermented juice of the grape" given as the meaning of "NEW WINE." From 1,634 downwards English and Foreign scientific and technical works in his possession, have described different varieties of unfermented wine. Eastern travellers from 1634 to 1879 have distinguished unfermented from fermented palm-juice, while calling both "PALM-WINE." Dr. Kerr says that "our Western supposition that the chief use to which grapes are put in the East is in the preparation of fermented wine is groundless and mistaken. In Palestine, Syria, and other Scripture regions, only a very small portion of the vintage is employed in this way—the chief use of the fruit being as food, and most of the remainder being utilized in the form of un-intoxicating solids and liquids." Dr. N. Kerr adds, "the records of old Oriental travellers are clear as to the Easterns having had the knowledge of how to keep grapes fresh and juicy from one season to another as is done in the present day. (Church of England Chronicle.) Time and space forbid me to take similar extracts from Dr. Dawson, Joseph Cook, etc. Dr. Youmans, of St. Catharines, says, he has in his cellar unfermented wine made after a recipe written by Pliny 1,800 years ago. It is not "viscid" nor "incipid," does not "clog," and is not "distressing to the stomach," as some affirm of such wine; but like that which Pliny, Plutarch, and others speak of is mild, salubrious and wholesome. He adds, "unfermented wine properly made is far more delicious than any alcoholic wine of the markets which money can purchase."

Yet in the face of all this testimony to the existence, some affirm that no trace of such a wine can be discovered in the lands of the Bible, and that several missionaries resident in Syria, have testified that they have never seen nor heard of unfermented wine in Syria or Palestine, nor have found any tradition that such a wine ever existed in the country. If a murder were committed and one or two competent witnesses swore positively that they saw it, the negative evidence of a hundred others that they did not see it, would not rebut the evidence. So these statements cannot set aside the evidence of the many competent witnesses which we have adduced. Besides, the same line of argument would set aside the evidence of the truth of Christianity itself. We receive it on the evidence of twelve competent witnesses, as to a positive matter of fact, which came within their own knowledge, and no amount of assertions can set it aside. Miss West, of the American Board in Turkey, in her "Romance of Missions," says, "In the Syrian church, 'the oldest' in the world, it seems that FERMENTED wine is not used for the Communion. When the fresh juice of the grape cannot be obtained, raisins are soaked, and the juice expressed for the purpose."—(Temperance Bible Commentary, p. 481.)

(To be continued.)

Sons of Temperance.

HAGERSVILLE.—A Division of the Sons of Temperance was formed and duly installed by Mr. D. L. Huff, on Wednesday evening, 18th February. A full charter membership was present, and those who have joined form a very representative company. The number of applications for membership are very numerous, and the probability is that a large and influential association of temperance workers will be the result of Mr. Huff's efforts. The Division is to be as much a literary as a temperance organization, and with

the right material is bound to flourish, and be a decided acquisition to the neighbourhood.

NEW YORK.—The Grand Division, Sons of Temperance, met for its annual session in Grand Opera House Hall, New York City. There were nearly two hundred delegates in attendance, and the session was an especially efficient and harmonious one.

A committee consisting of J. N. Stearns, of New York, and C. C. Leigh, of Brooklyn, were appointed to watch legislation at Albany, and oppose any measures before the Legislature in the liquor interest.

A committee was appointed to confer with a similar committee already appointed by the Grand Division of Western New York in relation to the consolidation of the two Grand Divisions of New York State into one jurisdiction.

The following officers were elected for the coming year:—G. W. P., J. W. Cummings; G. W. A., Alex. McGrath; G. S., Peter Macdonald; G. Treus., S. L. Parsons; G. Chap., Rev. Stephen Merritt.

At the morning session B. F. Dennison, M. W. P., together with the M. W. Treasurer and P. M. W. P. General Louis Wagner, of the National Division, and the Grand Worthy Patriarch of Pennsylvania, were present and addressed the Grand Division.—*National Temperance Advocate.*

Literary Record.

THE CANADIAN METHODIST MAGAZINE, for March, Toronto: William Briggs; \$2 a year, \$1 for six-months, single number 20 cts. There are four well illustrated articles in this number: "Wanderings in Spain," "How Tiles are made," "The Cruise of the Challenger" and a Life Sketch of General Gordon, with portrait. Dr. Daniel Clark, Medical Superintendent of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, contributes an admirable paper on "Worry," and the Rev. W. S. Blackstock one, "Some Salient Aspects of American Methodism." Two capital stories are given—"Bible Braid," and "Skipper George Netman, of Caplin Bight." A chapter of hymn studies, and life sketch of the late Dr. Richey, and other articles, make up an excellent number. Back numbers can still be supplied.

TEMPERANCE LESSON-LEAF, NO. 26.—The National Temperance Society has just published the first quarterly Lesson-Leaf for 1885, entitled "Defiling the Temple of God." It is No. 26 of the series, and is by F. N. Peloubet, D.D., the well-known writer of Sunday-school Lesson Helps, who has been secured to prepare the Lessons for the Society. The Lesson-Leaf appears in an entirely new dress and type, and will be found especially attractive in its style. Embracing new features, and prepared by so experienced a Sunday-school writer as Dr. Peloubet, it is one of the best of these valuable series of lessons. Every Sunday-school should have a temperance lesson at least once a quarter, and this Leaf, we think, will commend itself to all who examine it. It will be valuable in all juvenile temperance organizations, Bands of Hope, etc. Send for a sample. 8vo. 4 pages; price 50 cents per hundred, post-paid. Address J. N. Stearns, Publishing Agent, 58 Reade Street, New York City.

WONDER BOOKS.—Some of the products of *The Literary Revolution* fall little short of the marvellous in the eyes of those who remember books and prices as they existed a score of years ago. "The Library of Standard History," described in our advertising columns, is a striking example of the change which has come about in favor of the book-lover. *The Christian at Work*, New York well characterizes the volume: "A wonder-book in more senses than one. The idea of putting a work like this at \$2.50 per copy, seems preposterous; and yet there is wisdom in it, for everybody will want it, and it will thus be the means of advertising and introducing the numerous other valuable books which the publisher is putting forward." Even at these prices the publisher makes no pretense of "philanthropic" motive, but says the book pays a good profit. The offer he makes of a "100-page descriptive catalogue free on application," will surely call forth showers of inquiries, and the farther offer of "Books for examination before payment," ought to satisfy the incredulous. The publisher's address is John B. Alden, 393 Pearl Street, New York.