

IMPOSING CEREMONY.

Dedication of the Temperance Hall
Owned by Mariners and Mechanics Division.

On Thursday evening the hall recently erected by Mariners and Mechanics Division, St. John, was dedicated by Grand Worthy Patriarch Vroom, assisted by officers of the division, in the manner and with the ceremony usual on such occasions.

The hall was comfortably filled, and the chair, prior to the commencement of the ceremony, was occupied, in the absence of the W. P., by W. A. Willis.

At 8 o'clock the acting W. P., called the audience to order, and addressed Grand Worthy Patriarch Vroom as follows:

Our division having fitted up this hall for their convenience, are here tonight, with their friends, to have it dedicated. For that purpose I respectfully invite you, as the representative of the Grand Division, to occupy the chair.

The W. P. then called up the company, the brothers singing, "Thine welcome, brothers, here we meet," etc., during which the G. W. Patriarch took the chair.

The chaplain, Bro. Riley, then read an appropriate portion of scripture and engaged in prayer, after which the company, at the sound of the gavel, resumed their seats.

The G. W. Patriarch rose and said:

Brothers, and ladies and gentlemen: The occasion which calls us together is one which should elicit a hearty response from all wise and philanthropic.

We come to celebrate no pagan rites or unmeaning ceremonies. Intemperance is the enemy of our race, and the cause of all our ills. We seek the good, not only of those who are bound to us by ties of friendship, but, in the broadest sense, the good of all mankind. Every division we establish every hall we dedicate, serves as a beacon light to warn the unsuspecting voyager on life's tempestuous sea of the shoals and quicksands, the rocks and whirlpools of intemperance; while it indicates the only safe refuge, the secure harbor of total abstinence from everything that is intoxicating.

But for the influence of the division, whose hall we are now assembled to dedicate, some present, or their children might be wrecked. All, then, are interested in our order. Our gates are only closed to the unworthy. We will now proceed with the dedicatory services.

The G. W. P. then gave two raps, which caused the W. P., W. A., C. A., C., and P. W. P. to rise.

The P. W. P. then said: Therefore do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and the fruit of your labor for that which is not life. Eat and drink not, for ye shall not be filled.

The C. A. then said: Formed spirits were used to a limited extent in the earliest ages of the world. Alcohol was unknown until about the seventh century, when it was discovered by the Arabian. There is no evidence that distilled spirits were used as a beverage until the thirteenth century. During that century, a physician in the south of Europe, believing in the medicinal value of wine, prescribed it freely. Besides curing every ill, it was thought to prolong the vital powers, hence it was called the water of life.

The P. W. P. responded: Fatal delusion! What a blessing to the world had it been shunned as the water of death—death temporal and death spiritual!

A. C. said: Soon after it was believed that alcohol would cure all diseases, but persons in health became ill, and persons in ill health died without restraint. From that time the fatal error continued to extend among the nations of the earth.

The P. W. P. followed: Upon all seas and continents, in every season and climate, its effects have been the same—drunkenness, blinding, crushing, and death.

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THE IRISH QUESTION.

LONDON, May 25.—The cabinet met at noon today. The conference is generally regarded as exceptionally important, and as bearing directly on the present political crisis. Which the cabinet had been in session about a half hour a special messenger was despatched after Baron Hirsch, lord high chancellor. He was at the time engaged in a great lawsuit, but at the nature of the summons he received, he hurriedly cancelled his engagements and repaired at once to the cabinet meeting. It is stated that the cabinet will certainly decide whether or not the government will dissolve parliament and go to the country on the premier's Irish policy.

It is rumored that he will advise the Queen to immediately dissolve parliament.

LONDON, May 25, 4.30 p.m.—There is considerable excitement in the commons today, in connection with the resignation of the government to the Queen.

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foreign treaties, fiscal changes affecting the customs and excise in the United Kingdom, and votes for the maintenance of the royal family.

At an informal conference last evening the cabinet members agreed to accept Gladstone's proposal to read the bill secondly and postpone the discussion of the bill until after the summer recess.

It is now expected that division will take place on Tuesday next. The ministers will be divided on the subject of the bill, and the cabinet will be divided on the subject of the bill.

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FISHERY MATTERS.

HALIFAX, May 27.—Consul General Phelan today, mailed Secretary Dwyer a full report of his investigation of the facts connected with the Doughty seizure.

Captain Doughty and crew left for Portland today, but before going were served with writs from the admiralty court for the forfeiture of the vessel for violation of the treaty in buying fish.

It is reported that there are a number of American fishing vessels purchasing bait in the neighborhood of Grand Manan. If this is so, it may be expected in that quarter.

A telegram from Yarmouth says an American vessel has been there since the announcement of the departure of the additional cruiser.

Glenora fisherman, who has returned to his home at Shelburne, says he had been fishing out of the states for some time and did not till this spring when he shipped in to pay for their outfit. They got an early start and came down as usual to Digby to bait up.

They were forthwith ordered to be there and were told to go to the states and get their outfit. They got a few days, dodging around the coast, but they thought the coast was clear.

Then they put back, only to find the same cruiser there and be driven off again. This was repeated several times until it became too monotonous to endure. The Landowner, he said, once took hold of them, but finally let them go on a promise not to do so again. The crew landed at St. John's, and went into Cranberry Island, Mass., and lay back till the "grab" was gone, without having earned a red cent. He was therefore going home empty handed, but with the vigor of an overwhelming force, he had secured a large number of fish.

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