

THE  
**PRESBYTERIAN RECORD**  
 FOR THE  
**DOMINION OF CANADA.**

VOL. XVI.

OCTOBER, 1891.

No. 10.

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**CONSTITUTIONS FOR CONGREGATIONAL AND S. S. TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.**

Enquiries received indicate that it will serve a good purpose to state the facts regarding this matter. Previous to the Assembly of 1889 requests had been sent to the Committee on Temperance to provide a simple constitution for Congregational Temperance Societies, so that Congregations wishing to organize might have something to guide them, and enable them to get to work in a simple and practical way. In many instances little or nothing had been done because the Church had given no help in the way of information, or even suggestions.

In response to these requests the Assembly of 1889, directed its committee on Temperance to prepare such a constitution. The matter was considered by that committee, and a good deal of attention was given to it by the convener, and at the request of the committee the Assembly of 1890 renewed the instruction. Since then information has been received from the Presbyterian Church in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and from some other sources, but on account of the large amount of time and work necessary to carry out the petition movement it was found impossible to prepare anything that would be likely to prove satisfactory.

The facts furnished the Committee last year clearly show the need of better organization on the part of our Church in order that she may take her proper place in this department of her work. The report states;—"Not many congregational societies exist, there being a few isolated ones. A small number have pledge cards, particularly in the Sabbath Schools. A few report Bands of Hope connected with their Sabbath Schools. In some cases the work is attended to by the temperance committee of the Society of Christian Endeavour. There is however a great lack of effort, on behalf of temperance, by our congregations. There is in reality no organized effort at all."

From replies to questions regarding such organizations, and the attitude of congregations to them, "three things, at least, are evident. (1) Our Church is not meeting the necessities of the case, for overcoming the evils of intemperance and educating our people on the principles of total abstinence and prohibition.

(2) Much as the outside temperance organizations have done, they have failed in many places to win the entire confidence of our people, and therefore leave much to be done by the Church. In view of these facts, the necessity of some general organization is very evident.