

TEMPERANCE COLUMN.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE TORONTO BAND OF HOPE.

The annual festival meeting of the Toronto Bands of Hope in connection with the Church of England Temperance Society was held in St James' school room last week. The Bishop of Toronto presided. There were fully a thousand children present, representing the nine Bands of Hope in the city at present, and the meeting was probably the most successful held since the big gathering in the pavilion. The proceedings were opened with a hymn and prayer by the Rev. Canon DuMoulin, after which the chairman welcomed the children and their friends, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to see such an interest taken in the movement. Short addresses followed by C. A. Sadlier, the Rev. Canon Sweeney, and the Rev. Dr. Mockridge. It was no easy matter to keep up the interest of the hundreds of children in addresses on the subject of temperance, but the speakers were equal to the task and with the fable of the lion and the mouse, the story of St. George and the dragon, which came quite appropriately for the 23rd of April, etc., aptly applied to make a point in favor of the good work in which the Bands of Hope are engaged, the interest of the children was well sustained. It was stated by Rev. Dr. Mockridge that a Band of Hope was about to be organized in connection with Holy Trinity Church, making the tenth in the city. Several prize essays on temperance contributed by the Bands of Hope were read by Rev. Canon Cayley. The fife and drum band of the Boys' Home took up a position on the platform behind the chairman while the collection was being taken and played several selections. A robust little fellow, who beat the big drum in close proximity to the chairman, contributed his part to "The Girl I Left Behind Me" and other favorite selections with great vigor, doubtless for the special delectation of the Bishop, who tried very hard to look pleased. A programme of hymns, sung with great heartiness by the children, closed with God Save the Queen and the Dixology. The various bands marched home by the principal streets with their banners singing:—

Temperance boys and girls are we, In sunny youth, from care we're free.

The condition of the Church in Wales is of so much interest just now that we propose to give, in four letters from various correspondents, a full account of Church work, past and present, in the Welsh dioceses.

SIXTY thousand Jews have been settled in Palestine during the last few years. At a meeting in aid of the Syrian Colonization Fund of the Society for the Relief of the Persecuted Jews, it was stated that the Jews made good agriculturists. —Selected.

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