

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1883.

THE TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS.

3. THE I. O. G. T.

It is a little more than thirty years since the Independent Order of Good Templars was instituted. It was originated in the State of New York, has since spread over the whole civilized world, and now claims to be the largest Temperance Society in existence.

The I. O. G. T. is one of the secret societies. Admission to its membership is obtainable only by a regular form of proposal, ballot and initiation. All its members are bound by a solemn obligation to abstain from all intoxicating liquors, to work for the advancement of the temperance cause, to promote each other's welfare, and to keep secret the private signs and tokens by which they recognize each other. The objects of their efforts are, as stated in their ritual, "To lift up those who are sunk low in the scale of degradation, and restore them to friends and society, to save the young, pure and virtuous from ever falling into the snares of the tempter, and to hasten the hour when the means of intoxication shall be driven from our midst."

All business of the lodges is transacted according to the strictest parliamentary rules, devotional exercises open and close every meeting, time is set apart for social intercourse, literary and musi-

cal entertainment, &c., &c., and the whole proceedings of these weekly meetings are carefully planned, with a view to the moral, social and intellectual improvement of those who attend. Want of space will not permit us to give details of the Society's plan of organization, duties of the various officers, and other matters with which many of our readers are doubtless already familiar.

The Right Worthy Grand Lodge is the supreme head of the Order. It is composed of representatives elected from 78 Grand Lodges, and these in their turn represent upwards of 6,000 subordinate Lodges, with an aggregate membership of about 300,000, besides a large number of children who are receiving special temperance teaching in what are called Juvenile Lodges. Canada has 4 Grand Lodges, that for the Province of Ontario having jurisdiction over 250 subordinate lodges, with total membership of about 11,000. A list of these subordinate lodges will be found upon page 132 of this number of THE CANADA CITIZEN.

This order is specially strong in the United States. It is doing excellent work in England, Ireland, Scotland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Gibraltar, Malta, Cyprus, Egypt, South Africa, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, the Sandwich Islands, the Bermudas, Jamaica, and other countries; even the high seas float prosperous lodges on board ships of both the British and United States navies, all working in one fraternity, under the same obligation, and with the same laws, customs and recognitions of membership. The ritual of its beautiful and impressive ceremonies is published in eight languages, and calls are being made for other translations, to supply still further extensions of its activity and usefulness. The I. O. G. T. seeks to confer its privileges upon all whom it can benefit. It puts women on an equal footing with men in eligibility to all the privileges and rights of membership and official position. All ranks and colors enjoy its benefits. It labors for the alleviation of sorrow, the suppression of wrong, and the better recognition by humanity of its cardinal teaching, "The Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man."

WANTED, WORKERS.

There is no lack of men who admit—who deplore—the evils of intemperance—who express the most fervent desires for better customs, better laws, the promotion of morality, and the suppression of the terrible cause of crime; but there is a sad lack of men who are willing to go to work in earnest for the attainment of these results. The Temperance cause is moving slowly along, hampered and delayed by apathy and indolence, when it ought to be marching rapidly towards speedy triumph, upborne by the inspiration of loyal and willing self-sacrifice.

Our workers do not object to criticism and advice, they earnestly solicit disinterested counsel, and will warmly appreciate it, but they grow tired sometimes of professed sympathy that expends so much energy in talk that it has none left for action; and they are heartily sick of those good people who seem to consider it their special mission to lecture others upon the mistakes they make in their laudable zeal, but who never run the risk of making any such mistakes themselves.

We believe in total prohibition as the right remedy for the evils that flow from the liquor traffic. For this we have earnestly and faithfully striven, this position we cannot relinquish at the first call from men who have never before proved themselves heart and soul in earnest to get rid of the terrible evils that afflict us. The following extract, from our esteemed co-temporary, *The Lever*, is well worthy of consideration in this connection.—

There is a class of men, christian men, temperance men, men who desire reform, who mourn over the ruin the liquor traffic everywhere brings, the desecration of the Sabbath, the destruction of dear friends who have fallen victims to the rum power, who have friends growing up under the deadly breath of the hell holes that