

1. That an association be now formed, for the purpose of bringing the religious and organized social power of the local church to bear in counteracting the baneful effects of intemperance, so prevalent in the Province.

2. That the association be called "The Congregational Temperance Union of Ottawa."

3. That the following be adopted as the pledge of the Union :—

"I do voluntarily promise, in dependence upon the Divine aid, to abstain from all intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to discountenance their use by others."

4. That all persons signing the pledge be members of the Society.

5. That the Union be under the management of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and a Committee of 6 members of the Union, one half of whom will be members of a Congregational Church

6. That each member be requested to contribute annually at least the sum of twenty-five cents, to enable the committee to meet any contingent expenses.

7. That the members meet once a month, when the progress of the Union will be reported, and any interesting information laid before the meeting; and that an annual meeting be held in December, when the officers and Committee of Management shall be elected for the ensuing year.

Resolved, "That the Rev. E. Ebbs be the President; that Mr. W. A. Lamb be the Treasurer, and that Mr. W. H. Johnson be the Secretary."

P.S.—Any communication relating to the above movement may be addressed to the Secretary, W. H. Johnson, Esq., Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.

BAPTISM AS A SINE QUA NON OF CHURCH FELLOWSHIP.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your remarks in the February number of the *Canadian Independent*, I beg leave to say that I will be happy (D.V.) to discuss each of the questions which you propose. You give me to understand that you are willing to receive my communications, if I "keep within reasonable limits." Please state definitely the extent of "reasonable limits," and I will endeavour to keep within due bounds.

Allow me, sir, to mention at the outset, that I do not pledge myself to defend *all* the practices of the Baptist denomination: e. g.—you tell us that the Baptists characterize your practice of infant baptism as a "rag of Popery." I will not attempt to defend such uncourteous language. I like reasoning, but not railing. Again, in speaking of the exclusiveness of Baptists, you say that they deny "even the validity of immersion, when not administered by a Baptist minister."

Well, sir, if you can bring forward facts to prove this statement, I certainly will admit that in this matter, at least, the Baptists have some connexion with "a certain old gentleman at Rome." As far as I can learn from the New Testament, it is not necessary for a Baptist minister, nor any other minister, to officiate at the ordinance of baptism in order to give it validity. Baptism administered by an ordinary layman is equally as valid as if it were done by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

I will now proceed to discuss the questions which you propose, one by one. If you are willing, let us take the last one first. To *wit*:—"Where is there any positive injunction, such as we are asked to produce in support of infant baptism, requiring baptism, 'always to precede church fellowship?'"