



DEVOTED TO TEMPERANCE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION, AND AGRICULTURE.

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### Temperance Department.

#### THE GOSPEL TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

This movement, which has been progressing gloriously in Canada for some months past, is not the work of man but of God. If it were of the former it would come to nothing, but being of the latter it must grow and prosper, notwithstanding the many hindrances which may come in its way. Should its leaders not be perfect men, or fall by the way in their labors, its spirit must be carried on. The accompanying views illustrate two phases of it. The first represents "The Drink Demon." Look at him with his hand upturned as he is about to drink the health of some one. Much health, indeed, he wishes those he toasts! Look at them under his feet. There is no health there, but pinched faces, starvation, and misery. From behind his chair peeps his friend and ally, Death. Is it a wonder that Canada prays that this demon curse be taken away and forever banished from our midst? Is it any wonder that she prays that the rum-seller, who stands beside the demon protected by the license he holds in his hand, may become but a bitter memory of the past?

There is another picture also. It shows one who has been drawn from under the demon's feet. He is haggard and careworn. He has not been raised to his present position until after much suffering, but he now stands firm on the rock of "total abstinence," with the head of the serpent "appetite" beneath his feet, and the sword of the "pledge" in his hand, while his motto is "God helping me." He will need this help before his appetite is fully overcome. His wife may well clasp him to her, for for long years he has been no husband to her; his little child may well cling to him, for she has just found a father who will care for and protect her.

Will our young MESSENGER readers do what they can to help on this total abstinence move-

ment? They can assist it by encouraging men who are endeavoring to reform, and in another way by working for the prohibition of the liquor traffic. This number of the MESSENGER contains a map of Canada in which the counties in which no liquor is allowed to be sold are pink, while those that have no prohibitory law are white. If all the temperance people of Canada would work earnestly in whatever way they could for temperance it would not be long before every part of the country would be free from the curse of alcohol. Meantime there is great gain to every county which passes this law, and we hope that before long a good many white counties will become pink, and that a new map will soon be needed to show the progress of the good work.

plished. We only have room for the following extract:

"Statistics collected and published in 1832 by Secretary Pond, of the Maine State Temperance Association, showed that with a population of only 450,000 there were 2,000 places or bars in which intoxicating liquors were openly sold as a beverage—one grog-shop to every 225 men, women, and children. Nearly every store and tavern sold liquor by the glass. The sales of these 2,000 places were ten million dollars annually, mainly cheap rum, or \$20 for each inhabitant. At that time Maine was in the same condition as to the use of intoxicating liquors as other States. Since then there has been some improvement in the country at large. Statistics compiled in 1872 by Mr. Young, of the Internal Revenue Department, show that the sales of intoxicating liquors in the United States for the previous year were about six hundred million dollars, or \$16 per inhabitant. Later estimates swell the sales to seven hundred millions, with the increase of population.

less or higher than one million dollars, or less than \$2 per inhabitant. Concede even this high estimate, and we have the sale and use of intoxicating liquors in Maine only one-tenth what they were forty years ago, and one-eighth what they are to-day on the average in the remainder of the Union.

"Nearly all the rural towns report that whenever any intemperate drinker in those places wants liquor he is obliged to go to one of the half-dozen cities in the State; so that practically most of the cases of drunkenness for the whole State are concentrated in the larger places, where liquor is still sold secretly; or begin there and are continued after the return of the victims to their homes. Reports even from these cities show that notwithstanding there are many arrests for drunkenness, yet a very large proportion are non-residents who have come from the country. As all persons on the streets under the influence of liquor are arrested by the city police, the returns of arrests for drunkenness seem large in comparison with arrests for a similar cause in communities where no person is arrested for this offence unless he is quarrelsome.

"Statistics show an equally marked mitigation of the evils of the State. See Pond, in his report for 1833, covering returns from a large number of towns, states that the previous years, when the State had only two-thirds of its present population, there were 10,000 persons (one out of every 45 of the population) accustomed to get beastly drunk, and that 500 of them were women; that there were 200 (equivalent to 300 with present population) deaths in a single year from *delirium tremens*; that there were 1,500 paupers (equivalent to 2,200 now), brought into this condition by drinking; that there were 300 convicts (equivalent to 450 for present population) in the State prison and in jails; and that a large proportion of the homes even in the rural parts of the State were going to ruin in consequence of the in-



THE DRINK DEMON



"GOD HELPING ME."

#### PROHIBITION DOES PROHIBIT.

Ex-Gov. Nelson Dingley, Jr., at the State Reform Temperance Convention, held the 6th of last month, delivered an address upon the progress of the cause in Maine, in which he said:

"It is half a century since the temperance movement was inaugurated in Maine; forty-three years since it was placed on the total-abstinence platform; thirty-seven years since the practicability of rescuing the intemperate from the influence of the fearful appetite for alcoholic liquors was generally accepted; thirty-six years since Maine first practically recognized the importance of aiding moral efforts by removing by law, as far as possible, the temptations of the dram-shop; and nearly five years since the reform movement among drinking men was initiated in this State."

He then proceeded to show what was accom-

This puts the average sale and consumption of liquors in this country at the present time at \$16 for every man, woman, and child—a marked gain for the whole country.

"But Maine has gained much more than the country as a whole. Last year the sales of liquors by the hundred town-agencies in Maine, ostensibly for medical and mechanical purposes, were nearly 100,000; or with our present population of 625,000 about 15 cents per inhabitant. Instead of 2,000 open bars, as we had in 1832, which with our present population would proportionally give us about 2,800, now, so far as I can learn, there is no bar or place in our State where liquor is openly sold in known defiance of law. How much there is secretly sold is largely a matter of conjecture. The friends of temperance think not over \$500,000—making the aggregate sales in the State, \$600,000, or \$1 per inhabitant. The wildest enemies of temperance do not set the aggregate

temperance of the owners.

"Now the most careful investigators are confident that not one out of three hundred of the population is a drunkard; and that the annual deaths now from *delirium tremens* are not fifty; that the number of drunken paupers and convicts in prisons and jails, aside from those incarcerated for selling liquor, is reduced, notwithstanding the increase of criminal tramps during the past few years, and notwithstanding so large a proportion of our present criminals, and paupers come from foreigners, of whom we had comparatively none forty years ago. The increased thriftiness of the people is very apparent in the appearance of the dwellings."—*National Temperance Advocate*.

—The fear of the Lord is to hate evil.—Prov. 8:13.