

Temperance Items.

MEN OF OXFORD RALLY

— IN —

DEFENCE OF YOUR HOMES.

In answer to a petition, signed by over 3,000 VOTERS of this County, the Government has appointed Thursday the 13th of March, 1884, as a day of voting, either for the Temperance Act, and in favor of MORALITY and the HOME, or against the Temperance Act and and thus in favor of licensing the direct cause of three-fourths of the crime and pauperism of our County.

Men of Oxford, remember that if it were not for the persons actually engaged in this lawful traffic, there would be no organized opposition to the Temperance Act. It is a Temperance Act. Temperance men will not oppose it.

WE ASK ALL

Who are in favor of morality—in favor of protecting defenceless women and children who have no vote—in favor of taking the law from its present position by assisting the traffic and make it oppose the traffic,

TO COME TO A

GRAND TEMPERANCE RALLY,

— IN THE —

Methodist Church, Woodstock

— ON —

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5th,

AT 10 O'CLOCK, A.M.

Rev. W. A. McKAY, B.A., C. R. MORROW,
President. Secretary.

THE SCOTT ACT IN LAMBTON.—On Wednesday of last week quite a large number of Temperance people of Lambton assembled in the Royal Templars Hall, Sarnia, for the purpose of taking into consideration the advisability of submitting the Scott Act once more to the electors of the county, at as early a date as possible. The reports of the delegates from all over the constituency were of the most encouraging nature, and many of those present declared that the feeling for prohibition in Lambton was running higher now than it had ever done before. The following motion:—

“Moved by Mr. Ellison, seconded by Mr. Minneff, that in the opinion of this meeting, the Scott Act should be again submitted to the electors at the earliest date,” was carried unanimously by a standing vote.

Mr. H. T. Hany gave his opinion of the best mode of procedure, and showed plainly from figures that hotels could be run so as to pay without selling intoxicating liquors.

Mr. Keefer, the organizing agent of the Royal Templars, stated that he had spent some time in the County of Halton, where the Act is now in force, and he had found it a decided success and a blessing to the county.

It was then resolved that it is the opinion of this meeting that there should be a Scott Act Association formed in the County of Lambton, and that Messrs. A. J. Syer, J. G. McCrae, Ellison and Campell, be appointed a committee to call a convention at Wyoming, for the purpose of organization, and that the ministers of the county together with the members of the various councils, and temperance societies be invited to participate in this convention.

It was decided that the convention be called at Wyoming on the 5th of February, at one o'clock.

It was decided to request the ministers of the gospel to announce the convention from their respective pulpits, and if possible say a few words in support of the cause.—*Alvinston Fair Play.*

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GRAND DIVISION OF THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

The thirty-fifth annual session of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of Ontario was opened at Ottawa in the City Hall, on the Tuesday of last week.

There was a large attendance of representatives present from different parts of the Province, and before business was commenced the usual congratulations and hand-shaking were indulged in by many of the veterans of the temperance army who have fought side by side in the Order for nearly forty years.

The minutes of the last semi-annual meeting, held in Paris, having been read and confirmed, and other routine business disposed of, several new representatives were introduced and initiated and took their seats.

THE PATRIARCH'S ADDRESS.

The Grand Worthy Patriarch, John McMillan, the presiding officer, then addressed the Grand Division. After a brief introduction, he said:—I am happy to be able to inform you that the labours of the past year have not been in vain. We are in position to report a gratifying increase in our membership, and a corresponding increase in our revenue. Our finances are in a flourishing condition, and there are such evidences of increased activity among our members as to warrant the conclusion that we are on the eve of a general revival of temperance work throughout the Province. He continued, urging the strongest efforts to increase the membership, and believed that capable organizers in the east, centre and west could, with very little difficulty, double the membership in a year. He had made arrangements with Sis. Susannah Evans Peck, of New York, for meetings to be held under the auspices of the Grand Division in East and West York, North and South Simcoe, Durham and Northumberland, Prince Edward County, North and South Ontario, Peel, Lincoln, and Welland. The work of organization, he thought, should be controlled by the District Divisions, and recommend that the offices of County Deputy and District Patriarch should be merged in one. He recommended the National Relief Society.

SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS.

Speaking of the progress made, he said:—

The past year has not been noted for any very special effort in the way of Scott Act contests in this Province, but has been devoted rather to recruiting the strength and fortifying the position of the contending parties. All the work done this year by the temperance army has been in the line of moral suasion, and many thousands have been induced to sign the pledge and reform their ways. Our principles are gaining ground every day, and new recruits are fast giving in their adhesion to the principles of total abstinence. One of the most notable features of the year's work is the remarkable progress made by the Church of England Temperance Society. Its popularity is immense, and its membership is increasing very rapidly. A few years more, and with this new ally we may confidently enter into a campaign which will enable us to carry the Scott Act in four-fifths of the counties in the Province.

THE SCOTT ACT.

Referring to the progress of prohibitory sentiments he said:—The county of Halton is as yet the only county in the Province where the Scott Act is in force, and cheering accounts reach us from all portions of the county in regard to its successful working. It is expected that a desperate effort will be made to repeal the Act at no distant date. Such an attempt will meet with a determined opposition from the friends of the Act. No better temperance men are to be found anywhere than in Halton county, and they are not likely to sacrifice, through apathy, what they have secured through energy. The speaker then referred to the progress of

THE WORK IN OTHER LANDS.

In Great Britain the Blue Ribbon movement had swept the land, enrolling thousands of men and women of all kinds in its ranks, while in the United States not less than seventeen States had voted on constitutional prohibition. The high license law had been brought in with the intention of diverting attention from the main issue of prohibition, but the latter was God's own remedy, and could not fail. He then referred to the great loss to the cause