

TRAMPS AND DRUNKARDS.

Mr. J. E. Pell, discussing the disposition of tramps, said every municipality should be compelled to provide for its own poor. The only way to deal with habitual drunkards was by confinement.

Rev. A. H. Baldwin moved—

“That in the opinion of this conference the cities and each of the more populous towns of the province should be supplied with work houses, where tramps and habitual drunkards may be sent on indeterminate sentences, and where they may be supplied with industrial employment.”

He said that the provision of work for the tramps in Toronto had driven them away. No less than seventeen left in great indignation one day because they were asked to saw a quarter cord of wood, and declared they were going to Hamilton—that blessed city of rest—where they were not required to do any work. This proposal would do away with that practice.

Rev. Thomas Geoghegan, Hamilton, said that if Toronto had a place of this kind to scare the tramps out, Hamilton would have to get a place to scare the tramps to Dundas. The tramps had become an organization to get a corner on easy terms, and live without work. He seconded the motion, which was carried.

COUNTY GAOLS.

Dr. E. A. Meredith was called upon to move the next resolution. He said that the separate or cellular treatment of prisoners was a principle inculcated by the great reformer, Howard, and that since his time all the chief authorities agreed as to its utility. The herding system could not be denounced too strongly, and following in the style of the Athenian orator, he would assert that there were three requisites of prison reform, first, separation; second, separation, and third separation. He then submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.