

principles, and out of 235 students in Baptist colleges, 223 are total abstainers. The Congregational Total Abstainers' Association, although not worked as vigorously as it might be, owing to the lack of funds, has yet made considerable advances. For the first time the council reported a majority of abstaining ministers—1,317 out of a total of 2,605. There is believed to be still larger, but positive evidence of the fact is wanting. In the twelve colleges out of 363 students, 300 are teetotalers, so that the influence of future ministers who favor abstinence will largely predominate. Other denominations show a proportionate advance. The Free Methodist Temperance League was formed in 1880, but the past year was the first year of systematic work, and the committee report that out of 360 ministers on the home circuits, about 300 are abstainers and 250 are members of the League. Temperance activity is well maintained in the Methodist New Connection, 73 per cent of the ministers being total abstainers. The societies existing in connection with the Bible Christians and the Society of Friends have maintained satisfactory progress, and so also has the Catholic League of the Cross, whose branches have been largely multiplied."—*North-Western News.*

## WHAT'S YOUR BOY WORTH?

BY GEORGE R. SCOTT.

(From the New York Witness.)

Last fall, with Mr. A. B. Campbell, of Topeka, I attended a temperance meeting held in a school house in Shawnee County, Kansas. After two speeches had been made a collection had been taken up to prosecute liquor-sellers in that county. A tall Kansanian arose and said: "Put me down for \$20; I have six boys, and if necessary I will make my subscription more; to save them a \$100 bill would be a small amount." Yet he was a hard-working farmer, but he loved his boys, and as a consequence hated the liquor traffic.

In my late trip I asked a man, formerly a New York merchant, how it was that he had taken such an interest in the prohibition movement. He replied: "To my astonishment I found out that my eldest boy had taken a drink of beer." That was enough. He loved him as "the apple of his eye." And now every energy of that business man is brought into active service to protect his son from the ravages of the liquor trade.

In a town in Jersey, after a public meeting, a gentleman asked me what he should do to save his two dissolute drunken boys. A man of means, and living in a handsome country residence, he could not see why they preferred the saloon to their home of comfort. The liquor trade, knowing that he would foot all bills, was only too willing to give the boys all the poison they asked for. He said he loved them; but he never voted for home protection, as against the saloons on election day. His boys, practically, were not worth casting a ballot for.

I came across a mother in Ohio who loved her boy so that she would not give her husband any rest until he promised to vote for the Second Amendment. Some people thought she was only a humble, ignorant woman, but she was smart enough to know the value of her boy. You, mothers, who read this article, answer me this question: What's your boy worth? Make the price high, for he is "bone of your bone and flesh of your flesh." Ask father if he is worth a ballot next election. Put the question to him with tear drops trickling down your cheeks, backed up with a prayer of faith. If you can do it with sincerity the true value of his boy will appear, and all other questions sink into insignificance.

What is your boy worth?

*First.* He is worth asking to sign the total abstinence pledge.

*Second.* He is of sufficient value to be sent to a Band of Hope meeting to be instructed as to the effects of alcohol upon the human system.

*Third.* He is of sufficient importance for you to know where he spends his evenings and who his associates are.

*Fourth.* He is of more value than many household pets, and is entitled to more of your time and attention.

*Fifth.* To say nothing of the value of your boy's good character, he has cost you for food, raiment, and education more than what the average saloon-keeper pays for his license.

*Sixth.* "As the twig is bent the tree is inclined." It will be of great importance to you whether your boy is a valuable citizen or a curse to you and the neighbourhood in which you reside. If he turns out good he will be worth his weight in gold; if otherwise, better he had never been born.

*Seventh.* Being immortal, he is worth a life's work to prepare him for a happy hereafter.

No license was ever made high enough to cover the lowest estimate that you can put on your boy, if there's a spark of Christianity or humanity in your heart.

Nebraska virtually says its city boys are worth \$1,000; altogether to low. New York city puts the price of her boys at \$75; less than the price of a city railroad horse. An insult to every mother!

What's your boy worth?

Tell me the value of his soul, and I'll name the price of the privilege to sell intoxicants.

Is it too much to ask the fathers of America to at least set enough value

on their boys to yearly drop into the ballot box a slip of paper that shall voice the sentiment of this journal—

"We demand the Prohibition of the Liquor Traffic."

What's your answer?

## Scott Act News.

### ONTARIO.

**DUFFERIN.**—The friends of the cause in Dufferin have taken active preliminary steps towards the submission of the Scott Act. A great convention has been called for the county to meet at Orangeville on the 3rd inst. Prospects are good for a great victory.

**BRUCE.**—Bruce County has got to work with strong hopes of success. We hope to be able to give fuller particulars shortly.

**LEEDS AND GRENVILLE.**—The counties of Leeds and Grenville will test the Scott Act, and the \$3,000 required for this purpose has been apportioned.

**WENTWORTH.**—Active preparations are being made for the submission of the Scott Act in the county of Wentworth this year. The Act was defeated three years ago, but the temperance spirit has grown so strong since that, even among the liquor dealers, it is thought the Act will be carried when next submitted.

**GUELPH.**—At a meeting of the Guelph Women's Christian Temperance Union the question of submitting the Scott Act this year was taken up and discussed at some length, and the feeling expressed by the meeting was that while it might not be advisable to bring matters to an issue so soon, all the energies of the Union should be directed to preparing the way for the Act, by means of lectures, distribution of "War Notes," and other temperance literature.

**ONTARIO.**—An influential meeting was held at Port Perry on Friday afternoon, at which delegates from the various parts of the county were present. Rev. Geo. J. Bishop, of Uxbridge, was appointed Chairman, and Mr. N. F. Paterson, Q. C., Secretary. Several stirring speeches were made, and a Central Committee appointed, with headquarters at Port Perry, to continue the campaign throughout the county. Local organizations are being formed through which the Central Committee will act. It is expected that active canvassing and the holding of meetings will begin in about ten days.—*Globe.*

**HALTON.**—On Wednesday evening in the town of Oakville a meeting was held in the Temperance Hall to discuss the question of the operation of the Scott Act in this county. The Hall was well filled and the platform was occupied by a large number of the most respectable and influential citizens. The chair was occupied by Dr. Lusk. Rev. Mr. Masterson opened the proceedings with prayer, and at intervals during the evening some choice musical selections were rendered by the choir of the Methodist church. The bills calling the meeting had invited discussion, but no one appeared to champion the cause of the opponents to the Scott Act.

**THE CHAIRMAN** stated that the special cause of calling the meeting was to discuss the damaging effects said to have been caused in this neighborhood by the operation of the Scott Act. He expressed his astonishment that if it be true that the Act had resulted in bad business and bad morals that no one had come forward in response to their invitation by public advertisement to prove the assertion.

**REV. MR. MEIKLE** was the first speaker, and dealt principally with a document that had been gotten up ostensibly to show that a letter he had written in reference to the working of the Act was not in accordance with the facts of the case. He reiterated the statements of his letter, showed their truthfulness, and challenged any of those who presumed to contradict them to disprove the statements he made. One of the parties he referred to was in the hall, but did not attempt any reply to the rev. gentleman.

**MR. DYER** spoke briefly of the moral success of prohibition in Halton, and hoped to live to see it in operation over almost the whole Dominion.

**REV. MR. BRETHOUR**, Milton, said:—Much had been said about the quantity of liquor sold by the drug stores in Oakville. He was glad the blue book had been published, giving an account of the doings of those druggists for it had resulted in their losing their licenses to sell, and Oakville has been under total prohibition owing to the lapse of druggists' licenses from 1st May to the present time. If the beneficial effects of total prohibition for 20 days are so splendid, let us make it perpetual. The document already mentioned stated that the consumption of liquor was as great if not