

Temperance Department.

The Wife's New Story.

The story, ma'am? Why, really now, I haven't much to say; If you had come a year ago, and then again to-day, No need of any word to tell, for your own eyes could see Just what the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

A year ago I hadn't flour to make a batch of bread; And many a night these little ones went hungry to their bed; Just peep into the pantry, ma'am; there's sugar, flour, and tea:— That's what the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

The pail that holds the butter he used to fill with beer; He hasn't spent a cent for drink for two months and a year; He pays his debts, he's well and strong, and kind as man can be; That's what the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

He used to sneak along the streets, feeling so mean and low, And always felt ashamed to meet folks he used to know; He looks the world now in the face, he steps off bold and free; That's what the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

Why, at the shop, the other day, when a job of work was done, The boss declared, of all his men the steadiest one was John: I used to be the worst, my wife," John told me, and says he— "That's what the friends of Temperance have done for you and me."

The children were afraid of him, his coming stopped their play, Now every night, when supper's done, and the table cleared away, The boys will frolic round his chair, the baby climb his knee:— That's what the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

Oh, yes! the sad, sad times are gone, the sorrow and the pain: The children have their father back, and I my John again.

Don't mind my crying, ma'am; indeed it's just for joy, to see All that the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

And mornings when he goes to work, I kneel right down and say, "Father in Heaven, oh, help dear John to keep his pledge to-day!" And every night, before I sleep, thank God on bended knee For what the friends of Temperance have done for John and me.

Practical Temperance Work.

The temperance workers throughout the country can do a great deal of real practical work by co-operating with the authorities in seeing to the enforcement of the liquor laws we now have on our statute book. The Crooks Act, and similar laws restricting the sale of liquors, are in the interests of temperance, so far as their restrictions go, though of course they do not go far enough to meet the wishes of the prohibitionists. Except a few very unreasonable men, nearly all are willing to admit that until prohibition can be obtained a restrictive license law is much better than no law at all. Wholesale denunciations are therefore to be regretted. If our present laws prohibit all but four in a thousand from selling, would it not be better to help enforce that prohibition and continue to press for a clear sweep of the whole? If our laws prohibit all sales from Saturday evening until Monday morning, why not help to give the fullest effect to this prohibition, while asking for the balance of the week to be included? In making the prohibitions we now have effective, the claims for further advance in the same direction are much

strengthened. The License Inspectors throughout the Province complain that they receive but very little help from the temperance men in the discharge of their duties, and for want of some such help many violations go unpunished. There can be but little doubt that in almost any locality such information as half a dozen temperance men and women can often easily supply, would enable the Inspector to put the law thoroughly in force, much to the moral and material advantage of the community. It is a wonder that practical Christian and temperance workers do not enter more cheerfully in this matter than they generally do.

Our Provincial License law provides that when information is given to the Inspectors, the name of the informant shall not be divulged, where secrecy is desired. It also provides that the Inspector must do his duty when information is given to him, under a severe penalty for neglect. The Government also desires such co-operation, and any complaint of neglect of duty, when properly furnished, will be promptly inquired into. There is good reason to believe, too, that a large number of the Inspectors are desirous of obtaining reliable information, as it is all but impossible for any of them to ascertain about infractions of the law from personal observations; they are too generally known and too well watched to be able to do that.

Let a few men or a few women, or both, in any locality where the law is being broken send a confidential letter to the proper officer, giving the facts of the case and the names of two or three parties who can be depended on to give testimony in the case, however reluctantly; and let the official be reported to the Department in case decisive action is not taken; and depend on it there will not long exist cause of complaints. Depend on it, too, such a course of action would do a great deal to make clear the way for more sweeping and more effective restrictions.

Toronto Prohibitory Alliance.

The Toronto Prohibitory Alliance have determined to prevent liquor selling this year inside of the Exhibition grounds if it can be done. They protested, at an early stage, against a license being issued at all for liquor selling this year, but their protests were unheeded. Now the law is to be appealed to. There can be little doubt entertained that according to the spirit of the Provincial License Act no permission should be granted for the sale of liquors on any exhibition grounds, but advantage has been taken of what appears to be the mere quibble that the Toronto Exhibition was not established at the time of the passing of that law, and that it is not just exactly such an exhibition as the law refers to any way. Such an evasion is hardly creditable to any of the parties concerned. There is no good reason why liquor licenses ought to be granted at Toronto more than at any other large exhibitions. In this city there are hundreds of other places where thirsty men can get all they need, and the few hours of abstinence during a stay on the grounds, will not probably prove an injury or a serious inconvenience to any one. On the other hand the consumption of a large quantity of liquors, even of the milder kind, is almost sure to produce the usual effects, and to be attended with more or less annoyance and danger to the thousands of visitors on the grounds. It is too late in the day to talk about alcoholics being a necessity, either as regards food or pleasure. The advance of public opinion is against any such sales, and they must be stopped some day. The proper authorities in the case

may as well recognize the progress of sentiment in this respect and bow gracefully at once.

Personal.

Hon. Neal Dow is at present assisting in the great Temperance campaign in the State of Ohio, now the temperance battle ground of the nation, where a Constitutional Amendment vote is pending. He will be in Kansas next week.—Mrs. Youmans has been at work in Great Britain for some months past, under the auspices of one of the Woman's Temperance Association of England. She will probably return to Canada in a few months.—Col. J. J. Hickman, of Kentucky, is at present in the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Good Templars. He has been meeting with good success, and will probably return from Nova Scotia this month.—Miss Frances Willard, the ablest of the American female temperance workers, is making a trip to the Pacific coast states, where she has been most enthusiastically received.—Edward Carswell has spent nearly all of the past season in the Southern States. We are not informed of his present whereabouts, but his permanent address is Oshawa, Ont.—Mr. T. B. Smithies, of England, the well known temperance worker, and for many years editor and publisher of the *British Workman* and *Band of Hope Review*, died a few weeks ago. He accomplished a great deal of good in his life time.—Ex. President Hayes, always a well known temperance man, is taking part in the temperance campaign in Iowa.—Rev. C. H. Meade a very popular speaker, was present at the recent Temperance day meeting at the St. Lawrence M. E. Park, near Brockville, and gave one of the most interesting and practical temperance addresses we ever listened to. He goes South soon to advance the temperance work among the negro population, under the auspices of the National Temperance Society.

NEWS AND NOTES.

A New York exchange states that there are four grog shops to every church in the United States, and six bar tenders to every minister. Under such circumstances the work of christianizing the nation must move slowly on, if it moves at all.

Official reports show that in 1882 there were 2,719 breweries in the United States, and they consumed thirty-five million bushels of barley for beer making.

In regard to the effect of prohibition in Kansas, ex-Governor St. John says that the State has increased one hundred thousand in population, under prohibition, and not one of these is a saloon keeper.

The Missouri Pacific Railroad has prohibited smoking as well as drinking among its employees during business hours. Our Canada roads will yet follow suit.

Some months ago some of the citizens of Loneport, California, put a stout rope around a small saloon opened there contrary to law, and pulled it down. The proprietor sued one of the ringleaders for damages, but the jury acquitted him, on the ground that it was no mob, but a town meeting, and the saloon was a public nuisance.

The annual convention of the Catholic Temperance Union of America, was held last month in Brooklyn. There were 250 delegates present, representing 26 States, and New Brunswick. A large number of the Catholic clergy were present as delegates, and letters were read from bishops and archbishops, conveying expressions of encouragement and good will. A special committee of three members was appointed from each province to look after the interests of the cause among the youth of the church.

This committee will investigate plans and methods for forming and maintaining cadet Temperance societies. A platform was adopted strongly condemning convivial drinking, and the liquor traffic in general. The Union is increasing in numbers and influence. The next meeting will be held at Chicago in August 1884.

TEMPERANCE IN SCHOOLS.—In Halifax, N. S., the city School Board has recommended all the teachers in the Public Schools to give instructions, as far as practicable, from Dr. Richardson's Temperance Lesson book to all pupils under their charge. The Council of Public Instruction for the Province, has placed this book on the list of books recommended for the use of teachers, and the trustees of schools are requested, as far as possible, to place a copy of this manual on the teachers desk with other lessons of reference.

This is an important step in the right direction. Dr. Richardson's Temperance Lesson book is probably the best work of its kind ever prepared, and its extensive introduction in the public schools would do a vast deal in the proper education of the children of the country in regard to the true character and results of intoxicating liquors. It would be a good move to have this valuable manual extensively introduced in the schools of Ontario.

OHIO.—In the State of Ohio there is a Scott Act in force,—named from its author,—but different in its provisions from our Canadian Scott Act. The Ohio law imposes a tax of 100 dollars in all saloons in which fermented liquors are sold, and 200 dollars in those in which both distilled and fermented liquors are kept for sale. It also authorises all municipal governments to prohibit the sale altogether—thus introducing the principal of local option. An American exchange says that the immediate effect of the law is to shut up a large number of saloons of the lowest class. The tax is a lien on the property, and the landlords promptly interpose.

THE NORTH WEST.—An able correspondent of the *Orillia Packet*, writing from Maple Creek, North West Territory, gives some interesting facts about the working of the prohibitory law in that great Lone Land. It will be remembered that the Act of the Dominion Parliament organizing that Territory, prohibited the importation or sale of any liquors without a special government permit. The correspondent says: "One man for harbouring contraband whiskey was fined \$100, and another who had imbibed too much for perfect locomotion handed over \$50 as a small contribution to the public funds. The owner of the liquor had a very sudden appointment at Moose Jaw, but it availed him not, for the 'dodgasted' police nabbed him and he was forced to disgorge \$200. Others further west were fined \$150 each for selling 'pain killer' and 'flavoring extracts.' It seems rather hard to prohibit the sale of such comparatively harmless articles, but after several cases in which men, arrested for being drunk, swore that they owed their condition to pain-killer-cocktails, and flavouring extracts, there was no other course open."

It may here be mentioned that Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin, the well known editor of the *Regina Leader*, has recently been heavily fined for having a bottle of liquor unlawfully in his possession, and of course he is very mad about it.

Of the good results of this prohibitory measure our Governor-General, Lord Lorne, spoke in high terms to his country-men during his last visit to Scotland.

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