

# THE VANGUARD.

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OCTOBER, 1894.

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## THE PLEBISCITE IN NOVA SCOTIA.

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The Sons of Temperance in Nova Scotia claim that they originated the movement for a plebiscite on prohibition in Canada. They base this claim on the action of their Grand Division at the annual session held in Halifax in November, 1887. On recommendation of the Committee on the State of the Order it was resolved: "That the executive of this Grand Division be empowered to communicate with the executives of other Grand Divisions of the Dominion, and ask for concerted action in an appeal to the Government and Parliament of the Dominion for the passage of an Act, at an early date, providing for submitting, within the borders of Canada, the question of prohibition of the liquor traffic to a 'Yes' or 'No' vote of the electorate of the whole Dominion."

This is claimed to be the beginning of what is now so well known as the Prohibition Plebiscite movement. Though it may not be easy to trace the connection between that action and the plebiscite as so far realized, there can be no doubt that the seed then sown amidst opposition and fears has already borne abundant fruit, but which is, we trust, only the first-fruits of the grand harvest to be