

The Church Guardian

OF MONTREAL.

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."—Eph. vi. 24.
 "Earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."—Jude 3.

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CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

Among the many meetings which have become an institution in London, England in the month of May, those of The Church of England Temperance Society occupied an important place. The thirtieth anniversary of the Parent Society was marked by public meetings as follows:—
 Sunday May 1, Temperance Sunday; Monday May 2, Business meetings during the morning and afternoon and Festival Service at 7.30 p. m. in St. Paul's Cathedral London, at which the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Newcastle was the selected preacher. On Tuesday May 3 the Annual General meetings took place at Lambeth Palace, presided over by His Grace the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, among the speakers being His Grace the Duke of Westminster. At 7.30 p. m. the annual meeting of the Total Abstinence section, of the Society was held in Holborn Hall under the Chairmanship of the Lord Bishop of London; the speakers being the Bishop of Newcastle, the Rev. the Marquis of Normandy, the Rev. W. Grier, and W. S. Caine, Esq. a non-conformist. On Wednesday May 4, The Women's Union held its business meetings and on Thursday in the afternoon its annual meeting at Grosvenor House, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Barry presiding, the speakers being the Lady Cavendish, the Lady Aberdare and the Rev. Canon Scott Holland. At 7.30 p. m. on Thursday, the annual meeting of the Benefit Society of the C. E. T. S. took place.

Judging from the *Temperance Chronicle* the organ of the C. E. T. S. these several meetings were well attended and much interest was manifested in the work carried on by the Society. The *Chronicle* contains very full reports of the sermons delivered and addresses made at the various meetings; and we only regret that it is not possible for us to give them in full. We cannot help thinking that much greater interest in the work of this distinctively Church of England Temperance Association might be aroused in Canada were people more fully aware of the grand work which the Parent Society is doing and of the admirable basis upon which it is founded. Much greater enthusiasm on the part of Church people and indeed much greater loyalty to the institutions of The Church and societies working in connection with it are required. As a rule Church people are ready enough to render assistance to any and every *un-denominational* object so called; but they are not as loyal as they might be in the support of institutions—such as the C. E. T. S.—specially connected with The Church itself.

The work of the Association in England, and indeed wherever it exists is of two-fold character, Rescue and Preventive; and the report of the Society's practical efforts in the field of *Rescue*

alone, during the past year, should arouse the enthusiasm of every member. From a summary made of its operations during 1891 in eleven dioceses, we find the following figures, which speak for themselves:—

Cases visited at their own Homes.....	18,881
Prisoners met on discharge from Prison.....	19,684
Visits from "Cases" to Missionaries.....	571
Persons placed in Homes or restored to Parents or Friends (chiefly Young Women and Girls).....	978
Employment provided, either temporary or permanent, including admission to Labour Yards.....	1,134
Number of Cases assisted with Money, Shelter, Food, Clothing, Tools, or Stock in Trade....	10,357
Blankets given to destitute Cases.....	1,000
Loss of Employment averted through intercession of Police-court Missionary.....	80
Handed over to care of Parochial Clergy.....	791

The Society has also in operation in this connection Labor Yards at Ealing, Liverpool, Croydon, Hastings, Northampton and Dover. These are intended for the purpose of enabling those who have drifted into the Police Courts to regain their self-control before being exposed to temptation, and in carrying on this work some £5000 per annum is expended. The Society is desirous of extending this branch of its work which has the approbation of all the magistrates; and aims at appointing additional missionaries there; being already 41 employed in this work.

Another branch of its work, referred to at the meetings, is the *Race Course and Van Mission*, operating mainly in the country. During 1891, three vans visited 285 parishes, and the missionaries addressed over 500 meetings, at which over 100,000 persons were present, a large majority of whom, on the evidence of the clergy, could not be got into a school for any religious meeting. Here is another practical work which has great powers for good.

The work of the WOMEN'S UNION BRANCH of the C. E. T. S. is also of immense importance. In connection with it there are Inebriate Homes and Shelter Homes for women at West Kensington and Liverpool, and in London alone 2226 inebriate women were sent in 1891 to the Women's Union Office by the Police Court missionaries.

The *Temperance Chronicle*, referring to the anniversary meetings says:—

Progress has characterised the year's work, and the marvellous development of the Rescue part of our operations, was the theme of the Archbishop's speech. When so many attempts are made to minimise the work of the Church in the eyes of the public, and to represent her as doing nothing for the bodily welfare of the masses, it is necessary that the quiet work which has been going on in connection with the C. E. T. S., which is *commissioned by the Church of England itself*, should be made manifest.

We are probing the very depths of human misery and vice. At our police-courts is collected the social wreckage of every large city, and here, where the tide of civilisation leaves its stranded wrecks, the C. E. T. S. stretches out a helping hand to rescue the perishing and care for the dying. We are proud—and justly so—of our 41 Police-court Missionaries, stationed at the police-courts of some of our large towns; and we look forward to the time when in every town

where a Police-court Missionary is needed one will be found.

We are justly proud, too, of our Police-court Mission *women*, who nobly strive to lift up their fallen sisters, the miserable victims of alcoholic indulgence.

Are we not justified, too, in being proud of our Prison-gate Mission, which meets a prisoner on his release from prison, and extends to him the hand of a brother to help him regain his lost character?

But, proud as we are of the record of the rescue work accomplished, we must take warning that all our energies are not expended in this direction. The Chairman feels this, and urges that attention must be given to the "removal of the causes which lead to intemperance." *Prevention* is better than cure, and though one work may apparently be more popular than the other, and bring more grist to the mill, the earnest Temperance worker will never relax his energies in seeking to "remove the causes which lead to intemperance."

We are thankful for the interest everywhere evinced in the Temperance question. It shows that popular opinion is being educated, and *we claim that this education is due, in a very large degree, to the wise policy of the C. E. T. S. in not repelling, but attracting that large body of Church people, who, in the exercise of their Christian liberty, do not at present see their way to join the ranks of the total abstainers.* The Church must be in the forefront of this battle against the sin of intemperance; she has a glorious mission, a grand opportunity, and a good cause; and if her members are only enthusiastic and united upon this question, of such vital interest to the individual, the home, the nation, victory is assured.

"Forward!" then, be our watchword! We have won victories in the past; let us go on to win even greater victories in the future! Whilst we rescue the perishing and care for the dying, let us put forth renewed efforts to stamp out the appalling evil, which is decimating and ruining our land!

ANNIVERSARY SERVICE.

The sermon of the Bishop of Newcastle at the anniversary service in St. Paul's Cathedral was an eloquent and impassioned exhortation "to be up and doing in this work," and we shall hope to give our readers the sermon in full at a later day. We take from it at present only the two following extracts:—

We gather here to-night that as a Society we may draw close to the feet of the Master, and tell Him all things, both what we have done and what we have taught. That which we do *daily as individuals*, we do thus *annually* in our *corporate* capacity. It cannot be but that there will be both mistakes and shortcoming wherever the furtherance of the Divine purpose is entrusted to human instrumentality. Yet we know that God is able to accomplish His most splendid triumphs in spite of, nay, to bring them out of, man's involuntary failures; and to-night, therefore, we may bring before the face of God our work and teaching, asking Him to bless them, and to enable us to do both better in future.

We meet as a *Society within the Church*, accentuating a portion of Her work till that work be done, just as the defenders of a fortress gather