

Our Casket.

BITS OF TINSEL.

How may a man become four-handed? By doubling his fists.

"No, indeed," exclaimed Mrs. Poldman, energetically, "I don't believe in the extension of woman's suffrage at all. She suffers enough now."

Said Brougham, when he was a struggling lawyer: "Circumstances alter cases; but I wish I could get hold of some cases that would alter my circumstances."

Scene, village school. *Lady visitor* (to a very dirty child): "Jane, why don't you come with a clean face to school?" *Jane* (after some hesitation): "Please, ma'am, mither cauna spare me ony soft water, and she winna hae me use hard, for it cracks ma skin."

Examiner: Now, if I were to give fifty marbles in charge of this boy, (indicating the biggest) to divide equally among you, how many would you receive? (*Small boy of experience*): Please, sir, we shouldn't get none at all; 'cause he'd collar 'em all hisself.

On the St. Lawrence we once met a poor Indian who had just come out of prison. A more woe-begone and wretched-looking man we never saw. He was as limp as a week-old paper collar. "Did they starve you in prison?" "No." "Did they treat you with cruelty, overtask you with labor, or torture you in the dark cell?" "No; the great white chief did none of these things." "Then why this tortured look and why is my red brother so anguished?" "They made me wash myself. Ugh!"

"Horatius," said the school mistress to a 9 years old boy with two imposing freckles on the knees of his pants. "Horatius, please form a sentence with the word 'toward' in it and, write the sentence on the board." Horatius went to the blackboard and after much scratching the head and friction of brain, printed with the crayon, in letters that looked like a lot of half-feathered Shanghai chickens running after a piece of dough, the following sentence: "I toward my trowsers."

"Well, Mr. Slicks," said the doctor to a patient he had not seen the day before, "how are you getting along?"

"Nearly starved to death."

"Why, didn't you have oysters?"

"No, I couldn't get them the way you said, and I was afraid it would be dangerous to eat them any other way."

"Why, that's odd. Couldn't get stewed oysters: I told you you could eat stewed oysters with impunity."

"That's just it. I could get stewed oysters easy enough, but went to all the restaurants in the neighborhood for the impunity, and they said they never had such a thing on the bill of fare."

Royal Templars.

Nova Scotia has increased the number of its Councils to ten.

Fair Prospect Council, of Windsor Mills, Quebec, was chartered last week. This is the fifth Council in that Province.

It is proposed to publish an edition of fifteen thousand copies of the April, Canadian Royal Templar.

Council No. 137, Platsville, announces a meeting for the 13th inst. The Dominion Vice Councillor will be present.

Minton Council No. 9, of Manitoba, has instituted the Select Degree and sent in a number of applications for certificates to the Dominion Council.

The Supreme Council meets in Buffalo, this week. The Dominion Board of Directors met in Hamilton, on Monday the 9th inst., previous to attending the sessions of the Supreme.

Victoria Council, of Manitou, Manitoba, petitions for the Select Degree, and has an encouraging list of applicants for Dominion certificates. The Manitoba Councils are full of vigor.

The circular issued to the Ontario Councils, asking for an expression of opinion by vote on the monthly assessment, was not sent out by the Dominion Council, but by the Grand Council of Ontario.

Council No. 121, of Orangeville, had its commodious hall packed with an appreciative audience on the evening of the 27th ult., to hear an address on the Order by the Dominion Vice Councillor. The meeting was enlivened by a few musical selections, and was a decided success.

Aurora Council of Winnipeg, gave one of the best public entertainments of the season last week, and was greeted with an immense audience. Bros. R. v. E. A. Stafford, L.L.B., Hon. H. J. Clarke, and Rev. J. E. Allen, Agent of the Hamilton Alliance, were among the speakers.

Rev. John Straith, Presbyterian minister of Shelbourne, an active and prominent member of the Order, died recently. He held a full rate benefit certificate with the Dominion Council, and Mrs. Straith will receive \$2,000, as soon as the proofs of claim are received by the Dominion Board of Directors.

The 24th inst., is the day fixed for the institution of another Council in the city of Hamilton. Already upwards of forty names are on the petition for charter, and the active spirits declare that the number will reach sixty before the date of organization. This will be the fifth Council in Hamilton.

Council No. 4, of Newfoundland, located at Black Head, opened its doors to the public lately and welcomed an audience which crowded their spacious hall. Addresses were given by Rev. Bros. Swan, Matthews and Curtis, and after the close of the public meeting eight candidates were made Royal Templars.

Council No. 66, of Hespeler, held a grand public entertainment on the evening of the 25th ult., and drew out one of the largest audiences that ever assembled in Hespeler. An excellent musical programme was presented, and an address on the Order, by Mr. W. W. Buchanan, Dominion Vice Councillor. The Hespeler Council is very strong and is increasing rapidly.

This week adds two more to the Dominion Council list, from the Select Councils holding out on account of the change of law. Some members think that the medical certificate required with each application, is a hardship upon those who are in good standing, but it is an absolute necessity, and no Dominion certificate will ever be issued save to those who can pass such an examination.

The Grand Council of Ontario, after endorsing the monthly assessment plan, adopted by the Dominion Council, asked the members in Ontario, to express their approval or disapproval of the plan. So far about two-thirds of the members have voted and the result shows that the beneficiary law of the Dominion Council is endorsed by about three to one. The Councils outside of Ontario are a unit in endorsing the Dominion Council and its law.

The District Council of Royal Templars of Temperance met Feb. 24th, at Temperance Hall, Wyoming. They are becoming very popular, with every advantage possessed by other societies for attracting, entertaining, and educating the young, encouraging the weak, reforming the fallen, and uniting workers for action, the Royal Templars of Temperance adds permanency and stability with its sick benefit, and beneficiary departments.

Council 135 of Ayr, held a memorial service on the evening of the 26th ult., a tribute to the worth of their late brother, Rev. John Elliott, who was the father of the Council, and a very prominent temperance worker. A beautiful address of condolence was presented to the widow Mrs. Elliott, and a cheque for \$2,000. Mr. W. W. Buchanan, Dominion Vice Councillor, addressed the large audience on behalf of the society, and Rev. Mr. Thompson, Presbyterian minister, paid a tribute to the memory of the departed. The Dominion Secretary received the proofs of Mr. Elliott's death on the 24th ult., and on the 26th, the cheque for the benefit of \$2,000, was in Mrs. Elliott's hands.