

ing supporters of the temperance cause as alderman for the coming year, and a committee composed of Messrs. Farley, F. S. Spence, O'Hara, McLean, Fleming, and Burgess, was appointed to consider the matter and report at the next meeting.

The following extracts from the annual report of the above named society will be interesting to our readers:—

"In the early part of the year an effort was made to get the City Council to pass a by-law separating the sale of liquors from the sale of groceries or other merchandise. A largely signed petition bearing the names of many of our best known and influential citizens was presented to the City Council, praying them to pass such a by-law. This was supplemented by several deputations who filled the Council chamber to overflowing. Whilst a citizens' meeting, at which our worthy Mayor presided, which was his first public appearance in that capacity, was held in Shaftesbury Hall, and was very largely attended, showing the public interest in the question. The Council by a not over dignified ruse, under cover of a pretence to obtain legal advice (an advice which, by the way, never was obtained), managed to evade a direct vote on the question on its merits; and so, for the time being, the matter ended.

"As the time drew near a deputation from the Society, along with the representatives, waited upon the License Commissioners to request that a large reduction be made in the number of licenses to be issued for this year, and the withdrawal of all licenses from the island. It gives us pleasure to state that we found the Commissioners favourably disposed to this request. All licenses have been withdrawn from the Island, and the number issued throughout the city has been reduced.

"When it became certain that the Dominion Parliament would pass a Licensing Bill, this Society, by certain resolutions which it passed, was the means of awakening public interest and provoking considerable discussion on the subject, and when the Bill was finally passed a very able review of the measure was prepared by one of our active members, Mr. Wm. Burgess, which was copied by the press and so tended to a better understanding of both its excellences and its defects.

"At a later date, by resolution of the Auxiliary, a committee waited upon the Directors of the Industrial Exhibition Association, and requested them to permit no sale of liquors on the fair grounds. The Association had already, through their committee, applied for, and obtained, in the name of their Manager and Secretary, Mr. Hill, a license which applied to the booths in the grand stand, sixteen in number. Believing that by sub-letting these booths Mr. Hill had exceeded the terms of his license, which provided that the license shall only be valid so long as the party holding it continued to be the occupant of the premises for which the license was granted and the true owner of the business there carried on, and that consequently the liquors were being sold in contravention of the law, the committee waited upon the License Commissioners and requested them to instruct their inspector to proceed as in such cases the law provides he shall do. This the Commissioners positively refused to do, or in any manner to interfere. We think it is to be regretted that gentlemen who are entrusted with the administration of the law should refuse to perform the duties assigned to the office they hold in deference to the party who is complained against. Another matter of very great importance has received the careful attention of the Auxiliary, viz., the concentrating of the votes of temperance men. As already noted, considerable power is conferred upon municipalities affecting the local liquor traffic. For example, the City Council may pass a by-law separating the sale of liquors from groceries; they may limit the number of licenses to be issued in any year, and they regulate the price which shall be paid for the license. This Society by its electoral membership branch has furnished an agency by which temperance voters may unite in supporting one or more candidates for their suffrages at either municipal or parliamentary elections. So much for our record for the past year. Though we cannot boast of having accomplished much, yet we are cheered by many favourable indications for the future. There is a very evident growth of public sentiment in favour of restricting the liquor traffic within narrower limits and of excluding it altogether from places of popular resort. There is also a marked change in the tone of the public press when treating of temperance matters compared to what it was a few years ago. The License Law passed by the Dominion Parliament presents in some very important features a marked advance on former legislation. In conclusion, we respectfully submit that this society, which can only hope to be successful in proportion to the confidence and support it receives, has claims for both moral and financial support upon all existing temperance organizations, and upon all citizens

whose sympathies are with us in the work we have on hand. We desire that this auxiliary should be a thoroughly representative body. We aim to do a practical work, and therefore we ask for the practical evidence of your sympathy by the enrolment of your names on our membership list, and by such financial support as will enable us to do greater and more efficient work in the future than we have been able to accomplish in the past.

### GENERAL.

Eight colleges in Ohio have introduced temperance theories in conjunction with scientific studies.

In nineteen counties in Ohio 508 saloon-keepers have gone out of the business since the passage of the Scott law.

Blanco, Texas, voted 122 for prohibition, 33 against prohibition.

The President of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Maine the other day telegraphed to Senator Blaine, President of the United States Committee on Education and Labour:—"Prohibition is the settled policy of Maine. There is no organized opposition to it. The interests of the people have been greatly promoted by it. Crime, illiteracy, and pauperism are less than in any other State in proportion to population."

Miss Frances E. Willard has organized the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in 35 states and territories.

In his able address at Lake Maranocook on "Prohibition," ex-Governor Dingley showed from a wide induction of facts that Maine still leads in the beneficial effects of its temperance principles. Prohibition is not a dead letter. In 1882, 813 persons paid tax to the Internal Revenue Office for license to sell intoxicating drinks, 200 of which were by druggists. Now, if all should be reckoned as keepers of dram-shops, we should have only one dealer to every 800 inhabitants. How was it before we had any prohibitory law?—then we had one dealer to every 215 persons—not quite so bad as it is in New York, with one to 210, or New Jersey, with one to 180, or California, with one to 95. As to its cost in Maine in 1882, it was only *four cents* per inhabitant, while in the United States it was *16 dollars and forty cents*. Less than a year ago, Hon. J. G. Blaine in a letter stated that "Intemperance has steadily decreased in this State since the first enactment of the prohibitory law, until now it can be said with truth that there is no equal number of people in the Anglo-Saxon world among whom so small an amount of intoxicating liquor is consumed as among the 650,000 inhabitants of Maine."—*Maine Paper*.

The Young Abstainers' Union, the object of which is the promotion of temperance among the children of the upper classes, has now a membership of nearly 7,000 in London.

The London *Spectator*, while it opposes Sir Wilfred Lawson's permissive bill, strongly favours a law absolutely prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drink to children under 15 years of age.

A JUDGE'S TESTIMONY.—At the recent session of the Durham, England, Assizes, Justice Hawkins, in his charge to the Grand Jury said:—"He had had considerable experience in courts of law, and every day he lived the more firmly did he come to the conclusion that the root of almost all crime was drink. It affected people of all ages and both sexes. It was drink which was the incentive to crimes of dishonesty, and a man stole in order that he might get the means to get drunk. It was drink which caused homes to be impoverished, and they could trace to its source the cause of misery which was to be found in so many cottage homes where the common necessities of life were wanting. He believed that nine-tenths of the crime of this country, and certainly of the county of Durham, was engendered in public houses."

Life teems with unnecessary pain. For every soul there is work to do, an effort to make, sorrow to be alleviated. No day in the short time allotted to use here, should pass without some attempt, however feeble, to lessen the load of suffering pressing so unequally on the lives of those around us. All can do some little, and if each soul that has suffered would take a share in removing or lessening the burden of another, life would be other than it is. An old writer beautifully says: "All can give a smile." How few value a smile as they should, yet who does not know the brightness which some faces bring when they appear?