

Temperance Department.

The Work in Kent County.

Ed. TRUTH.—A very large and influential temperance meeting was held in the Baptist Church, Dresden, under the auspices of the Kent County Temperance Association on Tuesday evening, 15th inst. Mr. T. B. Anderson W. C. T. of Fairport Lodge 1 O. G. T., occupied the chair and gave an able and instructive address. Revs. J. H. Best and D. Pomroy, both of Chatham, followed with stirring temperance speeches, advocating the adoption of the Scott Act by the people in the County. Before the close of the meeting an auxiliary of the Kent C. T. A. was organized with the following officers:—President, R. M. Stuart; Vice-President, R. J. C. Auld; Secretary-Treasurer, T. B. Anderson. Much enthusiasm was manifested, and it is hoped that before very long the Scott Act will be submitted to the electors of Kent and successfully adopted.

A. T.

The Scott Act in Halton.

Halton is the only county in the Province of Ontario where the Scott Act is in force, and much interest is centred in its success or failure there. As the Act has now been on trial since the 1st of May, '82 sufficient time has elapsed to judge reasonably in regard to its operations. It is evidence enough that the Temperance men are reasonably satisfied in regard to the law. Had the Act proved a failure it is quite probable, some at least, of those engaged in the liquor interests would be better pleased than they now appear to be.

Last week the semi-annual Convention of the Halton Branch of the Temperance Alliance was held in Milton and, so far as can be judged from the published reports of the meeting, there was not a dissentient voice among the delegates from all parts of the county in regard to the fact that drinking and drunkenness have been very materially diminished in every part of that county, while in some localities the drink trade has been entirely banished. The following report of the testimony borne by several leading and well-known temperance workers is copied from the *Hamilton Tribune*:—

Mr. James, of Glen Williams, spoke in the strongest terms of the success of the Act. He thought where it had compelled the enemy to hide under beds and in dark places it was pretty evident the temperance people had the upper hand. Before the passage of the Act he in his capacity of constable, had received plenty of fees, and was frequently called out of bed to arrest people and adjust difficulties. Now he could go to bed and sleep without any fear of being called upon for any such enterprise. He knew of numbers who had voted against the Act who now thoroughly approved of it. Children who before the Act were nearly starved and half naked were now well fed and comfortably clothed and well cared for. Mr. Norris, of Omagh, reported a greatly improved condition of affairs, socially and morally, in his region since the passage of the Scott Act. Mr. Lister, of Nansangawoya, reported in a similar strain from his neighborhood. Mr. Warren, of Esquesing, near Acton, said that the Scott Act was considered to be a decided success in his neighborhood; not one had voted against it when the former vote was taken. What drinking was done in Acton was done so secretly that it was hardly recognizable; very few drunken men were now to be seen in Acton. The first objection against the Act was the fear of difficult hotel accommodation, but that was not now to be heard. Rev. R. R. Matland of Lowville, was of opinion that not a drop of liquor was now being sold in the Lowville Hotel. The outlook for a successful issue in case of another vote on the question was extremely favorable. One gentleman was of opinion that the Act was a decided success in Cumminsville.

No Bad Habit Broken To-morrow.

Why should men delay to break any bad habit? Everybody knows that it grows stronger by each repetition. Nothing is more foolish than to say, "I know I ought to stop, and I will next New Year's day." The man who cannot stop to-day cannot to-morrow. The drunkard never reforms to-morrow; the spend-thrift never saves to-morrow. The boaster who says, "I can if I will," is the one who cannot will, and therefore never

does. There is but one remedy for a bad habit, and that is to stop the thing now. He who says, "I will not do it for three months," is not grappling the habit at all. He only fights the battle who says, "Never more; the thing is wrong." The only infallible cure for an absorbing bad habit is to put an absorbing good one in its place. A love of bad company is not cured by no company, but by good company; bad reading gives way not to no reading, but to good reading. Dissipated men must become earnest Christians, not mere professors, to make their reformation sure.

Wine Made from Raisins.

Such alarming tales have been told of the beverage made from raisins and sold as the juice of the grape, that it is consolatory to learn that the wine made from the raisin is by no means injurious to health. The writer of an article entitled "What to Drink," in the *Republique Francaise*, states that most of the houses which make this wine get their fruit direct from the Grecian Archipelago or Asia Minor in bags of 130 pounds weight. The fruit is placed in large wooden tubs holding about 500 gallons, together with water heated by steam pipes. The fermentation commences almost as rapidly as with fresh fruit, and lasts from eight to ten days. It is then pumped out into vats. At this stage of the process it is of a light color like Moselle; and a good deal of it is sent into the French departments of the Meurthe and the Vosges, where, after having simply been filtered, it is sold as the wine of the country. At the next stage of manufacture it is passed through a closely woven cloth to free it from impurities, and a little alcohol is added. It is then colored with some harmless preparation, the one most used being made from the lees of fresh grapes. It can be sold wholesale for from \$3 to \$4 the twenty-two and one-half gallons.

Truth about Tobacco.

In a report of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Liege, by Dr. Lebon, the following conclusions are presented.

1st. For every 100 grains of tobacco used, at least one-tenth of a grain of nicotine is absorbed.

2nd. The diurnal quantity of tobacco consumed by an ordinary smoker is about 300 grains.

3rd. The effects of tobacco smoke are the same as those following the administration of nicotine.

4th. The resinous liquid which condenses in a pipe is almost as poisonous as pure nicotine, and destroys the lives of animals rapidly.

5th. The liquid condensed from the smoke in the mouth and lungs, contains ammonia, nicotine, fats, resins, and coloring matters. One drop of this speedily produces paralysis in young animals.

6th. In men, small doses of tobacco smoke excite the intellectual faculties; repeated doses produce palpitations, disordered vision, and decrease of memory.

To this may be appended the following:

"Dr. Willard Parker, jr., No. 41 East Twelfth street, New York, sent a certificate to the Bureau of Vital Statistics, stating that James J. Sullivan had died at No. 110 Henry Street, from 'poisoning of the system by tobacco.' Sullivan was only twenty-six years old. He had been employed as a bookkeeper, and he had used tobacco so constantly that his system had become impregnated with nicotine."

We expect that many will sneer at these facts, and light a fresh cigar, to quiet the touch of nervousness, which will involuntarily come to them, while for a moment they fear that "there is something in it." It is indeed a sad fact that this growing evil must sow its pathway with physical death before men will heed the facts, and science, and the pleadings of reform.

NEWS AND NOTES.

MORE PROGRESS.—The temperance people of Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia, have taken all the necessary parliamentary steps for the adoption of the Scott Act, and the official proclamation has been issued at Ottawa, fixing Thursday March 6th as the day of voting. So far the Act has been adopted by large majorities in every County in Nova Scotia, where it has been submitted.

PROHIBITORY LEGISLATION.—Miss Frances Willard is now recognized as the oldest woman in the United States engaged in the temperance work. She now proposes to try and have one million signatures appended to petitions asking each of the coming National Conventions of the great political parties to put a prohibitory plank in their campaign platform for the Presidency.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.—A correspondent of the *Chicago Union Signal* suggests that it would be well for some of the designers for beautiful Christmas cards to "come down to business" and design a beautiful total-abstinence pledge card. It would be one of the most acceptable Christmas presents some men could possibly give to their loved ones. It would also be a capital birthday card device.

DOWNS AND OUT.—The *Chicago Lever* says: "George Carter, prosecuting attorney, Muskegon county Mich., has been compelled to 'step down and out' of the responsible office which he held. He was charged with being an habitual drunkard, and was consequently deemed incapable of discharging the duties of public prosecutor. This is as it should be. If all the drunkards could be turned out of office, from president down to constable, this country might well breathe easier." The same remark holds good in regard to Canada. Several important offices in this country are now in the hands of men who are well known to be incapable of controlling themselves.

LIQUOR REVENUE.—Some leading American politicians have been proposing to levy heavy duties on alcoholic liquors, tobacco and the like, sufficient to carry on the affairs of the government, allowing real estate property to go free. The temperance people oppose it principally because it would have the tendency to cause the people to depend on the continuance of the traffic as a means of tax exemption, and also because it is wrong anyway to derive a revenue from a traffic the source of more ruin and misery than war, pestilence and famine combined. Hon. J. Blaine, though a strong prohibitionist, has lost for himself the sympathy of the temperance people because of his suggestions in that direction.

WHISKEY WAKES.—Mrs. Margaret A. Meuro, of Clifton, Staten Island, died recently, aged 71 years. She had for many years kept a small grogshop on St. Mary's avenue. Some rough neighbors went in to attend the wake. They emptied the barrels, kegs, and demijohns of alcoholic spirits until the revelry became excessive. During the debauch the coffin was thrown from the table and the body rolled out upon the floor, where it remained until some neighbors dispersed the company and restored order. In the same village some time ago, a wake was held over Timothy Coffey's remains, when the assembly became so hilarious that they took the corpse from the coffin, propped it against the wall with pickets that were pulled from a near-by fence, and stuck a pipe in the dead man's mouth.

MON LAW.—The *Montreal Witness* says:—"It is not a bad sign of the effectiveness of the Canada Temperance Act for the mob to come to the support of its transgressors and break every other law that stands between them and its subversion. This is what has just happened at Sackville, Westmoreland Co., New Brunswick. A witness in a case under the Act was, for refusing to testify, committed to gaol for five days, and was being led off to his new lodgings when a large crowd, that had been turned out of

the Court room for misbehavior, violently attacked the constables and rescued the prisoner from five of them after a fierce struggle. Probably few things could be more effective toward alienating any sympathy there may be among respectable people in the country with the movement now on foot there for the repeal of the Act.

A BAD SHINGLE.—A gentleman from the country stopped at a barber shop to ask for directions concerning the locality of a place where he wished to go, when one of the barbers said: "Boss, yer's got mighty long hair. Better let me take some ob it offen yer." "I haven't time now," the gentleman replied. "I'll be in again some time this afternoon, and then I'll give you some work." The gentleman went away, met several acquaintances, drank, became intoxicated, and in that condition went to the shop, and telling the barber that he wanted to be shaved, lay back on the cushion and was soon asleep. After shaving the gentleman, the barber, remembering the conversation of a few hours before, began to cut his hair without further ceremony. Just as he was completing the work the gentleman sprang from the chair and exclaimed: "I've a good mind to shoot the top of your head off." "What's de matter, boss? Job not done satisfactory, sah?" "Satisfactory! You've shingled my wig!"—*Arkansaw Traveler*.

DRINK'S DOINGS.

A man named George Jones, hailing from Peterboro' was run in by the Toronto Police on Saturday night, penniless and with his coat torn into rags. His statement was that he came to the city with some months' hard earnings, nearly \$45 in all, and was "having a good time with the boys" in some of the taverns until the bar-room had to be closed. He was then put out into the street in an intoxicated condition and soon robbed of all his money, besides being otherwise badly used. But for his timely arrest by the police, he would have probably perished of cold and exposure during the night, in a by-lane.

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The causes which start men upon their careers are often seemingly the most slight and casual.

The eastern quarter of London is undergoing rapid changes, the like of which are declared to have been previously unknown since the great fire. Recently no fewer than 130 houses, some of them the oldest in London, have been pulled down in order to make space for a new thoroughfare leading to Tower Hill.

A hygienic museum is to be founded in Berlin. A large collection from the exhibit of the great "hygienic exhibition" which closed Dec. 15, has already been made as a nucleus, and the objects are to be stored for the winter in the exposition building until permanent quarters can be secured. The plans are in capable hands, and great things are expected to result.