

## Temperance Department.

TRUTH desires to give, each week, information from every part of the Temperance work. Any information gladly received. Address T. W. CASH, G. W. S., Editor, Napanee, Ont.

### THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.

BY REV. T. G. WILLIAMS, EX-PRESIDENT OF MONTREAL METHODIST CONFERENCE.

Seldom, if ever before, in the history of any people, has a moral question of such importance taken so great a hold upon a community.

It has laid society, in all its grades, under tribute. Its claims are debated with equal earnestness in the log cabin of the settler in the newly constituted counties of Canada and on the floor of the House of Commons.

The laborer argues with his fellow the question he heard discussed in the pulpit on the preceding Sabbath. The children on the street shout, "Hurrah, for the Scott Act!" and the grand-father declares the "elusive change in public sentiment since he was a boy; and women through the length and breadth of our land send their prayers to Heaven, some in thanksgiving, others with tearful eyes and hopeful hearts looking for a deliverance in the near future.

#### THE CAUSES

Let us ask the question: What has brought about this wondrous change? It is impossible fully to decide this matter, as many influences have been at work to produce it. But some causes have had such a marked effect that it is safe to attribute to them their part.

For years past the pulpits of every church which has been alive to the importance of this question, have taught the Gospel in such a manner that sooner or later this demand for the destruction of the liquor traffic would necessarily come. Some pulpits have, in obedience to the instructions of conferences and synods, every year devoted one or more of the Sabbath services to the presentation of the temperance question as a speciality, and to this potent influence, acting as an educator for many years past, we must attribute largely the present advanced state of public sentiment on this question.

Then again, through many years past temperance organizations have been leavening communities with their benevolent sentiments. Lecturers have been in the field constantly, and it may safely be said that the range of their mental powers has been so wide that every class has found its "meat in due season." Earnest and able advocates have been found every year to present the claims of temperance, and to press for the legal suppression of this misery-producing traffic.

Temperance societies have contributed their quota to increase the strength of this sentiment, and have kept alive in many places the desire for a prohibitory law.

To mention the names of all the organizations which have done good service in this great cause would take us beyond the limit we assign ourselves.

#### THE PRESS.

The attitude of the press is a study. None can draw the line here with absolute precision. Previous to the introduction of the contests arising out of the present agitation one might have inferred that the whole press of Canada was on the side of temperance, but when the question was brought from the sphere of theorizing into the burning arena of active conflict which must issue in practical prohibition if successful, then the dividing line was quickly found.

A large majority of the religious papers came out boldly and faithfully, while a few, under various pretences, attempted vainly to occupy neutral ground.

The service rendered by the religious press and by the other journals which were true to the cause cannot be overestimated, and great praise is due to the many editors who stood true to their posts amidst threats and invitations which were heaped upon them. While, on the other hand, the merited contempt overwhelms the pitiful weakness who posed as a "temperance man" in times of peace and in the time of conflict deserted to the enemy. Faith has its reward, one in the consciousness of having faithfully discharged his duty; the other in the shame which comes from a

Judas-like betrayal of trust, to which is added the humiliation of a crushing defeat. WOMAN'S AGENCY.

Confessedly the influence exerted by the women of our land has been a potent factor in pressing this question to an immediate issue. The power which they have exerted in securing victory in so many contests in which they have participated as organized bands, attests the truth that for many years past a mighty reserve force has remained unemployed and unknown. We are only now learning the immense power they wield, and when the day comes, which we believe is near at hand, when the franchise will be given to women on the same conditions as it is given to men, the liquor traffic may choose its pall-bearers, if not already laid in its unhallowed and unblessed grave. The women of our land would give it "short shrift," and waste no time in discussing how largely it should be compensated, for the torrents of woe which has rolled over our homes through the flood gates of hell which it has kept lifted through all the sad and mournful years of the past.

Women would first bury the offender, and hold the wake after the funeral to discuss the compensation.

#### SOME THINGS TO BE REMEMBERED IN MIND.

We must gratefully remember that we are largely the reapers, and the ploughmen nor sowers. Our fathers in years gone by put in the ploughshare of truth, sometimes in most uncongenial and unpromising soil, and amid the derisive and contemptuous shouts of the enemy, but they like true heroes, stood by their principles till death overtook them. To many of them no light of victory came, and they rested upon faith alone amid the dark shadows. Others were privileged to see the lightning of the darkness, and spoke words of cheer to their sons, who grasped the armor their palsied hands could sustain no longer. Their fathers went into the silence of death with bright and hopeful words upon their lips, and we are now permitted to toil in their places as the reaper who harvests the golden grain succeeds to the reward of the one who guided the plough and scattered the seed.

All honor to the noble bands who toiled in the darkness of the night, or in the gray dawn of the coming day. From their higher station they doubtlessly rejoice with us in the glorious achievements to which we are permitted to contribute our humble quota.

#### THE FUTURE.

What it will be none can predict, but by the harmony between natural and moral law we may expect the still more rapid march of this and every other great moral reform.

This present movement is not like the ebullitions of an Iceland geyser which, long pent up, suddenly bursts forth in violent and angry manifestations. It is rather like the smouldering flame which bursts forth and continues to burn till it destroys that which produced it. How soon or how long delayed none can say, but of the liquor traffic in this Dominion it is safe to say, "Thou art weighed in the balance and art found wanting."

Whatever measure of success may crown the present movement, no thoughtful man anticipates or fears that this baneful traffic will ever regain the power it awayed with such dire results to the good of the community. Though it may linger in its death throes for years, its destiny is sealed, and the sentence pronounced. May God hasten the day.

#### Moderate Drinker

On the question of moderate drinking that eminent authority on physiology, Dr Alfred Carpenter, writes to the London Times a note which puts the argument for total abstinence in a new and peculiarly forcible way. After saying that this is the age of precise methods and precise instruments, and that recent practice has made great advance in using medicine with precision and certainty, he goes on thus:

"The most poisonous articles are thus rendered useful and safe. The most valued medicines are among the most terrible poisons. Morphine is one of these. It is a sheet anchor in some of the most severe and dangerous maladies; yet if the patient has been accustomed to use it daily the physician fails to find it answer in the manner which he is accustomed to see it act upon those who are not, as it were, acclimated to its use. I am of opinion that alcohol is a

most virulent poison, and, under certain circumstances, is a most valuable medicine. The abstainer has the full benefit of its effects when it becomes necessary to use it in case of illness; but the moderate drinker throws away the benefit which it might be as a medicine. No physician is able to use it as an instrument of precision in one who is accustomed to use it as a diet. The moderate drinker submits to the toxic effect of the dose every day, and his nervous system is somewhat deadened to its direct influence, so that the dose which produces a decided result on the abstainer has scarcely any effect upon the moderate drinker. A larger and more poisonous dose has to be given, with the certainty of some evil resulting from its use, which will have to be removed before the system returns to its normal and healthy standard.

"It is an instrument of precision in the hands of a physician when he is an abstainer. It is longer so to the moderate drinker; and, as a consequence, the latter suffers by having one precise remedy the less which may be used in his treatment when he requires it."

### NEWS AND NOTES.

**PROHIBITION PROGRESSING.**—The following items in regard to prohibition in the United States are from the April number of the *National Temperance Advocate*, the best of the American temperance journals:—

In Missouri twenty-one counties have banished drinking saloons from their borders. Ohio legislators vote to prohibit opium. It has less political influence than whisky. In Arkansas there are no saloons in the counties of Ashley, Dorsey, Dallas, Polk and Scott. The Kansas Legislature has voted to prohibit the sale of tobacco to minors under sixteen. The officers of the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society have voted not to admit any beer saloons within their grounds at the next State Fair. The De Pauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, offers a prize of \$35 to the student who shall present the best essay on "The best way of securing hearty co-operation of all friends of order in the suppression of the liquor traffic."

**DEATH IN THE POT.**—Dr. B. W. Richardson, the great English physician, in a recent ably-written paper says:—

"As regards life, it has been my duty to make special inquiry into the part which intemperance plays in the causation of premature mortality, and the lowest estimate which I could frame was that at least forty thousand persons died every year in the United Kingdom from personal intemperance, and probably double that number from poverty, accident, violence, or disease consequent on the intemperance of persons other than the slain. The estimate has been laid before several learned societies, and, though it has been freely discussed, has never been seriously questioned, while it has been pronounced 'moderate' and 'under the truth' by well-known authorities on public health. It is not improbable that there are half a million of habitual drunkards in the United Kingdom."

**ALCOHOL AS A MEDICINE.**—Dr. Alfred Carpenter, a well-known medical authority, says:—

"I am of opinion that alcohol is a most virulent poison, and, under certain circumstances, is a most valuable medicine. The abstainer has the full benefit of its effects when it becomes necessary to use it in cases of illness; but the moderate drinker throws away the benefit which it might be as a medicine. No physician is able to use it as an instrument of precision in one who is accustomed to take it as a diet. The moderate drinker submits to the toxic effect of the dose every day, and his nervous system is already somewhat deadened to its direct influence, so that the dose which produces a decided result on the abstainer has scarcely any effect upon the moderate drinker. A larger and more poisonous dose has to be given, with the certainty of some evil resulting from its use, which will have to be removed before the system returns to its normal and healthy standard.

"It is an instrument of precision in the hands of a physician when he is treating an abstainer. It is no longer so to the moderate drinker; and, as a consequence, the latter suffers by having one precise remedy the less which may be used in his treatment when he requires it."

### GOOD TEMPLARS.

**MATRIMONIAL.**—Married, at the English church, Lowville, Ont., March 17th, by Rev. T. Motherwell, Bro. A. Nowell, G.W. S. of Carlisle, Ont., to Miss Hattie M. Freeman, daughter of V. Freeman, Esq., of Carlisle. Congratulations to the happy couple.

**A NEW IDEA.**—The Napanee *Beaver* says: "A mock parliament has been instituted at Napanee, under the auspices of Napanee lodge, I.O.G.T. The members are not elected but the following are the leaders: Mrs. Hiram Casey, Queen; Mr. Thos. Lawless, Premier; Mr. W. S. Williams, Leader of the Opposition; Mr. Marshall Bogart, Speaker. Her Majesty, in the speech from the throne, spoke of the advisability of passing a prohibition law, and also a bill to extend the franchise to women. Many new members will be elected at the next session. The parliament will meet every Tuesday evening."

**TORONTO DISTRICT LODGE.**—At the regular monthly meeting of Toronto District Lodge, held on the 21st ult., the following officers were installed by Rev. W. C. Wilkinson, C.D., assisted by Rev. J. B. Nixon, G.W.T.:—W.C.C., W. Watson, d. "Unity" Lodge; W.V., Sister Ross, d. "Excelsior;" W.S., Richard Skill, d. "Never Failing;" F.S., Daniel Rose, d. "Albion;" W.M., Bro. Brown, of "Toronto;" W.C., Bro. Impey, of "Toronto." Several important matters were discussed in regard to the temperance work in the city, and action taken towards active cooperation in the Scott Act work. The Executive are arranging to visit and strengthen such lodges in the city as need aid. A good report was made in regard to the extension of the work, two or three new lodges being in prospect.

### Music and Drama.

The new play, "Shadows of a Great City," enjoyed a most successful run at the Grand last week. Avowedly sensational, though never improbable, it is one of those dramas that appeal to the feelings of an audience, and while, though declining in popularity a little in England, still hold the hearts of the people of this continent. The company producing the piece are exceptionally well-fitted for the characters given them, and the scenery and stage mountings were such as to call forth unbounded admiration. This week a strong company is playing "Michael Strogoff."

Osborne's company at Montford's last week gave an exceedingly interesting and acceptable entertainment. The audiences were good and the varied programme was received with great favor. This week Alice Oates Burlesque Co.

The seats for the Kellogg-Huntington concert on the 10th are rapidly being taken up, and its success is thoroughly assured. Miss Huntington, while in London, attended three receptions given at Marlborough House by Her Royal Highness, and upon one occasion, after singing in private there, was the recipient of the following:—"Miss Knollys is desired by the Princess of Wales to beg Miss Huntington's acceptance of the accompanying brooch as a remembrance of the pleasure her music at Marlborough House gave Her Royal Highness."

The subscribers' list for the Pappenheim concert is still open at Messrs. Suckling & Son's piano warerooms. Madame Pappenheim sang the soprano solos in Elijah in Boston lately at a performance of that work by the Handel and Haydn Society. The unanimous declaration was that they were never before so beautifully rendered in Boston. The London, England, "Times" says she is "a great soprano."

A Chicago critic thus writes of Miss Terry's "Rosalind":—"Miss Terry is to womanly a woman to be perfectly at ease in a costume which displays her limbs, and even if she were not, she is too accustomed to the graceful art of handling skirts not to miss them when they are absent. But the reading was perfect."