

## Temperance Department.

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

### More Victories.

On Thursday of last week four more votes were taken on the adoption of the Canada Temperance Act, and the result was three more victories for prohibition. In the County of Missesquoi, Province of Quebec,—there was a small majority—40—in favor of the continuance of the present license system. As there is quite a large French vote in the county the result is accounted for in that way.

In the votes in this Province the result was very significant. The city of St. Thomas adopted the Act by the slim majority of 11, giving a very significant hint to the temperance people of the cities to be pretty cautious about the matter of bringing on votes in the cities until there is a pretty strong indication in favor of success. The liquor interests are nearly all centred in the cities; the distillers and the wholesale dealers are all there, and so long as there are such large prospective gains in the business they will use such "persuasive" as will powerfully effect certain classes of electors.

Elgin County, lying beside the city of St. Thomas, gave a handsome majority of 1,563 for the adoption of the Act. A vote of this kind may tend to relieve the doubts of those whose fears have been expressed that the law will not prove efficient except where there is a considerable majority in its favor.

The grandest majority of the campaign is that of Lambton County. We have not the exact figures before us just now, but the majority is probably something over 3,000. This result has all the more significance from the fact that the present was the fourth vote that has taken place in Lambton in regard to local prohibition. Some years ago a vote took place under the provisions of the Dunkin Act, and it was set aside by some legal technicality. Twice previous to this time have votes taken place under the provisions of the Scott Act. It cannot therefore, be said that the present was "a mere catch verdict," or that "the people did not properly understand what they were voting for." Probably no question ever voted upon by the electors of the county was more thoroughly discussed and better understood, and probably on no other important question was there a larger majority recorded. It is evident enough that the merits of the Canada Temperance Act will bear the most careful examination, and that the better its merits are understood by the people the more probable it is that the people will vote in its favor.

Since the Scott Act campaign began in 1878, seventy-one votes have been taken, in the various Provinces and the result has been that there have been fifty-nine victories for the Act and twelve against it. In every one of the Provinces, we believe, the majority of the votes has been in its favor. Surely with an average of five majorities out of every six, for a space of years, on a question of such public importance no room can be left to doubt what is the public feeling in regard to it. The days of the licensed liquor traffic are evidently drawing to an end in Canada.

### Punishment and Crime.

The annual report of the Inspector of Prisons for the Province of Ontario, has just been published, and it affords subject matter for good deal of careful study. The figures show without doubt a gradual growth in the criminal population of the Province. The total number of commitments for all crimes in 1870 was 6,379; in 1880 it had increased to 11,300, and last year it was no less than 12,081. This is a greater number than ever reported before with the single exception of 1878, when the number was 13,481.

Toronto leads off with the largest increase during the year, the number of commitments being 3,251, an increase of 618 over the previous year. London comes in with

the next largest number of commitments, having 1,004; and Hamilton third, with 954. Of the 12,081 committed, only 7,200 were found guilty and sentenced. The others were acquitted, or detained for some reason other than as criminals. About two-thirds of all those committed,—8,016, were unmarried, and 9,001 were of intemperate habits; the remaining 3,080 are put down as "temperate," but how many of them actually were total abstainers is not stated. Probably if the prisoners themselves were allowed to give their classification, a good many reported temperates were only occasionally so.

Of the total number, 10,316 were males and 1,765 females. Of the males, 458 were under 16 and 9,858 over that age. Of the females, 48 were girls under 16, and 1,719 women over that age.

There were 7,341 commitments in all for crimes against public order and peace, and of these nearly two-thirds, or 4,650 were drunk and disorderly. This is a larger number than is reported to have been committed in any year before. The talk in certain quarters of the liquor traffic becoming more respectable and less harmful "under a well enforced license law" is not verified by these authenticated figures. The report says:

"The commitments for drunkenness have again increased in number, but there is a decrease of one per cent. in their ratio to the total commitments. The increase commitments for this offence, and on those for larceny and vagrancy, constitutes the largest portion of the total increase."

Of course drunkenness was the prime cause of quite a large number of the other crimes, such as vagrancy, assaults, injuring property, manslaughter and murder. Just how large a portion of all the crime of the country is fairly attributed to alcoholic drinking it is impossible to state definitely, but it is evident enough that if effectual efforts are to be made to materially decrease the crime of the country those efforts must be largely directed towards putting an end to the terrible drink traffic. It seems hopeless to expect to suppress crime by merely punishing it, even at a vast expense to the country, without first drying up the sources. Any effectual remedy must deal more directly with the cause than with the mere effect.

### Gen. Grant's Terrible Lesson.

Gen. Grant is reported to be now slowly dying of a cancer in the mouth, and public sympathy is everywhere being strongly expressed with the brave and patient sufferer. For some weeks past the pain he has endured has been something terrible. It is reported that all his teeth have been drawn out with a hope of giving some relief, but even that has not helped the matter to any great extent. In consequence of the terrible condition of his mouth no kind of food can be taken but something in a liquid form, and not much of even that without great pain. Very little sleep can be obtained, and nervous prostration is inevitable from these causes. The brave General is reported to be enduring all this agony with true fortitude but it must be evident that the time will soon arrive, if it has not come already, when he will welcome death as an end of his suffering.

There seems to be no doubt whatever that Gen. Grant's present condition has been brought about in consequence of many years' excessive tobacco smoking. During all the time that he was prominently in public life it was well known that he was an almost constant smoker, but as he was a man of splendid constitution no injurious effects appeared to come from it. The penalty is now being dearly paid, however.

Some time ago, when it became evident that the General's mouth was showing unmistakable evidences of disease because of the amount of nicotine absorbed from the cigars smoked, he quit smoking, but unfortunately it seems to have been too late, and now the dreadful disease is slowly and surely doing its deadly work.

Surely a terrible lesson like this ought not to be lost sight of. Every habitual tobacco smoker is exposed to similar dangers, and every one of them would do well to sit down and give a few minutes' careful consideration to the important question whether all the pleasures of tobacco using are a sufficient compensation for the terrible risks it is necessary to run in order to continue the habit, to say nothing of the loss of time

and loss of money in connection with the same unnecessary habit. Surely the whole subject is well worthy of careful thought.

Gen. Grant's unfortunate case is not by any means an isolated one. The tobacco habit has far more human victims every year than most persons are aware of. It is a well known fact that a very large proportion of the cases of "that dreadful disease of cancer in the mouth or tongue come from tobacco using. It is well known, too, that a large number of other diseases,—nervous prostration, paralysis, dyspepsia and the like,—are either produced, or greatly hastened by the free use of tobacco. Hundreds of men die in Canada alone before their time each year from diseases induced by tobacco using. In view of these undoubted facts surely a warning voice should be raised by the pulpit, by the press, and by the medical profession. The wonder is that so important a matter is so little spoken of. Hundreds of young men would avoid tobacco using were they as well aware as they should be of the risks they run of indulging in the habit.

Unfortunately it too often occurs that the very men from whose mouths warning should come are too full of tobacco smoke, or possibly tobacco quids, to say anything on the subject.

### Lord Napier on Temperance.

The name of the gallant Lord Napier of Magdala, Field Marshall in the British Army, is one of the best known names among the bravest of Britain's defenders. It may not be generally known that he is himself a total abstainer and an earnest advocate of the total abstinence movement in the army.

At a Church of England Temperance Society meeting not long ago Lord Napier made an earnest speech in which the following statements were made:—

"No one can read the daily journals without meeting with one of the most terrible crimes resulting from drunkenness, murders of wives by their husbands, of children by their parents. (Hear, hear.) If the records of crimes committed by the civil inhabitants of a country which we believe to be distinguished for religious and social order appeal solemnly for a remedy, how much more forcibly must the appeal touch those entrusted with supreme authority over the military and naval services which guard the safety and honor of the nation? It is in the solemn review by military commands of the courts-martial on soldiers for crimes committed through intoxication that the full and awful importance of the question stands before them. Men, often well disposed, who might have continued good soldiers but for this fatal vice, have paid the penalty of their lives, or have lost in imprisonment a large portion of their earthly existence. (Cheers.) During my command of the armies of India, and after a period when a temporary prevalence of crime has subsided the action of the Church Temperance Society came under my notice. The movements of the Society were, at first, to require consideration, as it had a kind of organization that might have militated with discipline, but I found, on the contrary, that it was the greatest supporter of good discipline and good conduct. (Loud cheers.) No one could fail to observe, on reviewing the records of soldiers' offenses, that practically, all had their origin in drunkenness. I caused the reprobation of a return of the offenses of about 18,000 men, rejecting all regiments whose records were imperfect owing to changes of service, and the result proved triumphantly that, if the Temperance movement could be maintained, it would prove the best preventive of crime. Of the records of these 18,000 men, the Total Abstainers had no crimes. The Temperance men had practically none. The whole body of crime was among the Non-Abstainers. (Hear, hear.) If the Temperance movement can continue to establish its hold over the Army, it will do more than all other restraints or rewards to banish offenses. You may shut up public houses, or restrain canteens, but if there are men who want it and can pay for it, liquor will find its way to them. The enemy is defeated if you can teach men to feel and enjoy their freedom from it.

### The Power of a Word.

A mother, on the green hills of Vermont, was holding by the right hand a son sixteen years old mad with the love of the sea. And as he stood by the garden gate one morning she said,—

"Edward, they tell me, for I never saw the ocean, that the great temptation of a seaman's life is drink. Promise me, before you quit your mother's hand, that you will never drink."

"And," said he (for he told me the story): "I gave her the promise, and I went the globe over, Calcutta and the Mediterranean, San Francisco, the Cape of Good Hope, the North and South Poles. I saw them all in forty years, and I never saw a glass filled with sparkling liquor that my mother's form by the gate did not rise up before me; and to-day I am innocent of the taste of liquor."

Was not that sweet evidence of the power of a single word? Yet that was not half.

"For," said he, "yesterday there came into my counting-room a man of forty years, and asked me,—

"Do you know me?"

"No."

"Well," said he, "I was once brought into your presence on ship-board drunk; you were a passenger; the captain kicked me aside; you took me to your cabin, and kept me there till I slept off the intoxication; you then asked me if I had a mother. I said I had never known a word from her lips. You told me of yours at the garden gate, and to-day I am master of one of the finest packets in New York; and I came to ask you to come and see me."

How far that little candle throws its beams! That mother's word on the green hills of Vermont! Oh, God be thanked for the mighty power of a single word!

### How a Drunkard Reformed.

"I had noticed that men who made a business of buying and selling wines in large quantities sampled them and ascertained their quality and bouquet by taking two or three mouthfuls in succession, rolling it around their tongues, as one might say, bathing their palate in it—in short, subjecting it to the severest test by the organs of taste—and then ejecting it from the mouth without swallowing any. The remembrance of this came upon me one day when I was perfectly sober but terribly despondent. I resolved to try it. I did, and have met with the most gratifying success. You may laugh, but it is the solemn truth. I took a large drink of liquor, but instead of letting it pass into my stomach, I checked it in my throat and gargled it for a minute and then spat it out. To my joy I found my thirst for it almost as much appeased as though I had swallowed the liquor. I tried it again and again with the same effect. I was not made drunk. I have followed this plan ever since, and have not been drunk since, although I have gargled the liquor, never swallowing a drop, as many as a dozen or more times a day—the same number of drinks I used to take. The plan is a very simple one, and is, I believe, the only one for a slave to the cup."

"Has your appetite increased?"

"On the contrary, it has decreased. By the means I adopted my brain has become clear and strong again, and my will power is as good as it ever was before I became a hard drinker. In gargling the liquor I get all the benefit of the flavor and all the satisfaction to my appetite without losing my senses."

### Temperance and Jingoism.

Ed. TRUTH.—I wish to correct an error into which the Mail's correspondent has fallen into when he calls Mr. W. T. Cairne not an abstainer and a Jingo. The above gentleman is a strong temperance man and has been from his youth. The speech proves his position clearly. Such sentiments are quite incompatible with moderate drinking, and I well know that Mr. Cairne is a strong peace man, though not peace at any price. There is nothing of the Jingo about him. His joining the ministry was considered to have strengthened the temperance element in the ministry. I have known Mr. C. from boyhood, and am related to him by marriage. He is one of the rising men of England, and a true philanthropist.

New Sarum, Ont.

Yours truly,  
A. W. EMERY.