

Temperance Column.

C. E. T. SOCIETY.

The Church of England *Temperance Chronicle* (London, England), gives in a late number the following testimony from one of the daily Papers to the usefulness of the Society:—

"The Church of England Temperance Society in its present form is, it is not any exaggeration to affirm, the most powerful and the most widely-extended agency in operation for the promulgation of the principles and practice of Temperance. The position which the Society has attained it owes in no small degree to the practical wisdom which impelled its managers to effect its reconstitution ten years later on the Double Basis of the wholly Abstaining and Non-Abstaining Sections. It was originally a Total Abstinence Society, founded by the combined energies of a few Clergymen, who were at that time working separate Parochial agencies in their respective districts. After a short experience it developed into a Temperance reformation society, and in this capacity worked faithfully and laboriously for a period of nine years. Finding, as time progressed, that its potency for good was restricted by the limited sphere of operations it had imposed upon itself, the Society, rising equal to its responsibilities, realised that the cause of Temperance could be best served by the bold venture of enlarging its basis, and establishing a Section which would embrace all, whether Abstainers or not, who were willing to unite in promoting the cause and principles of which it had become the acknowledged champion. In 1872 it underwent the reconstitution through which it has risen to its present prominent position. By its close association and identification with the Church it has become a real living power with Diocesan Branches and Parochial Societies reproduced and in active operation in every part of the country. It can now claim the support of four thousand affiliated Branches with an attachment of seven hundred thousand members. Its work is divided into sections designed to carry its operations among all classes of the community. In the effort to stay the rising flood of female Intemperance, in the combat with the intemperate propensities of our seafaring population, in resistance to the customs and usages of society tending to the encouragement of drinking habits and practices, the Society has shown a courteous but firm and unyielding opposition. Its counteracting agencies comprise besides the persuasive thunders of the pulpit and the platform, the more useful experiments of practical trial. Its attempts to popularize the consumption of non-intoxicating drinks in the streets, the harvest field, and the barrack room, and other places, have been attended with remarkable and unexpected success. Not the least valuable of its operations is the Juvenile Union, by which it en-

deavours to systematise and extend the preventive training of children of all classes, and to keep them from acquiring in youth the taste and desire for alcoholic liquors."—*Daily Chronicle.*

The *Reformer* says: "During the reign of Her Majesty, as much money has been spent on intoxicants as would have paid the National Debt five times over!

I do want you to feel that you are custodians of the national health and as you are told of the evils of taking or prescribing alcohol, we ask you to lift up the standard against it, and by your example, as well as by your words, to indicate to the people generally that it is more desirable for them to abstain from it than to take it. That is what you can do, each in your own sphere.—Dr. J. J. RIDGE, *Address to Medical Students.*

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