

THE CAMP FIRE.

A Monthly Record and Advocate of The Temperance Reform.

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A NEW PLAN OF WISE WORK FOR RICH RESULTS.

BY W.C.T.U.'S—YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES—TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS—AND CHRISTIAN WORKERS GENERALLY.

[We carried prohibition in Maine by sowing the land knee-deep with literature.—NEAL DOW.]

THE CAMP FIRE is a carefully prepared budget of the latest and soundest campaign literature, bright and telling sketches and poems, and a summary of recent temperance news, put in the taking form of a monthly journal.

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POLITICAL ACTION.

REPORT ADOPTED BY THE RIGHT-WORTHY GRAND LODGE I. O. O. T. JUNE 1896.

The wise, safe, and beneficent platform that embodies our honored maxim of total abstinence for the individual and prohibition for the State and nation, has withstood in the realm of fair investigation all assaults of criticism and defied all contrivances of political and economic sophistry.

The complete suppression of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages is a fundamental principle of this world-wide Order, and it is a matter of congratulation on the part of every true Templar that nuncertain sound has ever gone out from the declaratory agencies of our organization.

Since 1800 these six sententious slogans of principle have been known as the "Good Templar Platform":

1. Total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as beverages.
2. No license in any form, under any circumstances, for the sale of liquors to be used as beverages.
3. The absolute prohibition of the manufacture, importation, and sale of intoxicating liquors for such purposes, prohibition by the will of the people expressed in due form of law, with the penalties deserved for a crime of such enormity.

4. The creation of a healthy public opinion upon the subject, by the active dissemination of truth in all the modes known to enlightened philanthropy.
5. The election of good honest men to administer the laws.
6. Persistence in efforts to save individuals and communities from so dreadful a scourge, against all forms of opposition and difficulties, until our success is complete and universal.

We have no hesitancy in proclaiming to the intelligence of the civilized world to-day the declaration that the legal prohibition of the drink curse would open the avenues of legitimate trade to the greatest prosperity that has ever been known. We assert with earnestness that this question raises the greatest moral, economic, financial, and political issue of this century. It is the patriotic hope of your committee that the Good Templars of the world will make such contribution to the proper settlement of this question as shall give to our beloved Order imperishable fame and fadeless glory.

QUESTIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CANDIDATES.

1. Are you in favor of the total prohibition of the liquor traffic?
2. If elected to the House of Commons will you support prohibition irrespective of party considerations?
3. If it be found impossible to secure a majority of the House of Commons for immediate prohibition will you favor the submission of the question to the electorate, promising to support prohibitory legislation if a majority of the electors vote for it?
4. Will you support a resolution in Parliament to abolish the sale of intoxicating liquors within the precincts of the Parliament Buildings?

TO ROYAL TEMPLARS.

A. M. Featherstone, Dominion Councillor Royal Templars of Temperance, has addressed to workers an appeal deserving careful attention. It is published as follows in the *Hamilton Templar*:

"Weighed in the balance and found wanting," was the verdict of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance in regard to the Conservative Government and party at its convention in this city on Tuesday, 26th of May. Eighteen years of office and opportunity and nothing done excepting a one hundred thousand dollar Royal Commission, whose report they refused to make use of. A carefully prepared manifesto issued by the party, supposed to outline its policy on every important question, and the question of questions—Prohibition—entirely ignored.

On the other side what have we? Not all we could wish, but a recognition of the importance of the issue, and a positive promise on the part of the leader and his party that if the popular vote decide in favor of Prohibition, a law will be enacted in accordance with the wishes of the people. Is it any wonder that the Alliance, by unanimous vote, decided that where no known and avowed Prohibitionist was in the field, the vote and influence of the Temperance electorate should be given to the Liberal candidate?

Personally, I shall not soon forget the combative, bumptious, defiant reception given by Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper to the first Prohibition delegation which waited on the Government, and wherever he may be a candidate, I trust that the Temperance vote may be solid in opposition to his election. Replies have not been as yet received from all the candidates from Montreal constituencies, but the attitude of the Temperance electors in St. Antoine division is not at all doubtful. In Mr. Mackay we have a man, to use the words of one of our most prominent Temperance men, "whose word is as good as his bond," whose character and record are clean, and who will be found voting on the right side on every question of Moral Reform. He will get the solid Temperance vote. His opponent, Mr. Roddick, emphasized his knowledge of, and showed how closely in touch he had kept with, the Temperance movement by stating in his reply to the questions of the Alliance, "that he would prefer to delay his reply until the Royal Commission had reported."

In closing, I cannot too strongly urge upon every Royal Templar to make his vote and influence felt in this election. Prohibition is in sight, but it means work up to the 23rd of June, and then vote and vote right.
Montreal, May 20th, 1896.

NOTHING CAN COME OF IT.

The secret was out at last. It was a pitiful sight. In a room where taste and luxury abounded, where the hand of love daily arranged every little article in the doctor's study—and now to find him drunk! Agnes stood gazing in amazement. He—her husband—who had so lately promised before God to cherish and protect her, already so fallen! Could she have known this she would never have left her father's house and promised to be his wife. Now what was before her? A life of humiliation and misery. She knew he drank a little wine. "But, then, he was wealthy, and so handsome and gay, and had a profession; surely nothing serious could come of a taste for wine." So she had argued before their marriage. Now she was to learn that this serpent, when flattered and petted, by the rich and gay, could turn and bite them when he chose to charm as well as the poor and degraded among men. Yes, he was drunk; and the secret was discovered, the skeleton in the closet

revealed. He threw off the mask and acknowledged he had no more power over himself. Slowly he went down. First in the confidence of his people, then in the eyes of the community, and lastly, in the eyes of his own wife, who, while she stood by him and clung to some faint hope, pitted him, lost her respect for him, and finally followed him to a drunkard's grave.

More than once have I seen this picture in real life. We think of the drunkard as among the poor and despised of earth—ignorant and covered with rags. It is not always so. The wealthy, the talented, the petted of society, if they tamper with the serpent, will at last feel his sting.
—John E. Lightbourn, in the *N. T. Advocate*.

A JUVENILE PLEDGE.

"The pledge we make, no wine to take;
No brandy red to turn the head;
No whiskey hot that makes a sot;
Nor fiery rum that ruins home;
Nor will we sin by drinking gin;
Away we fling the punch and sling;
Hard cider, too, will never do,
Nor brewers' beer our hearts to cheer.
To quench our thirst we always bring
Cold water from the well or spring.
So here we pledge perpetual hate
To all that can intoxicate."
—Selected

THE LIQUOR SELLER'S PSALM OF LIFE.

Tell me not in wild orations
That the business I am in,
Is, of all men's occupations,
Most deprived and full of sin.

Life is real, and Gold and Silver
Are the things that count with men;
Money's king; we must get money;
What's the difference how or when?

"Illegal traffic?" Bosh and nonsense;
Read the License; read it well;
This whole government behind it
Gives me perfect right to sell.

What if women broken hearted,
Pray that God may let them die?
What if mother's weep, and children—
Drunkard's children—mourn and cry?

What if beer, and rum, and whiskey
Crowd men into prison cells,
Robbing them of all their manhood,
Sending them to drunkards' hells?

Lives of rich men all remind me
I can get there just the same,
With a bank account behind me
What care I for fame or name?

As to all your moral questions
I have only this to say:
There's my License, bought and paid for,
Stamped with Government's O. K.
—Phebe Dodd, in *Ram's Horn*.

WHY DRUNKARDS SEE DOUBLE.

The reason a man sees double when under the influence of liquor is that the nerve centers are changed by the action of the alcoholic poison. The muscles that move the eyeballs do not act in harmony. Consequently instead of both eyes being focussed at the same time upon an object one eye receives an impression independently of the other. Both impressions are flashed to the brain by the optic nerves. Consequently the object is seen twice. The inflamed condition of the brain centers and the loss of energy from overdoses of alcohol account for the staggering gait of a drunken man.—*Exchange*.

Mr. R. A. Jamieson, Patron candidate in South Renfrew, is very outspoken in his advocacy of total prohibition. He is expected to get a strong support from friends of the temperance cause.

The Camp Fire.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
OF TEMPERANCE PROGRESS.

SPECIALLY DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF
THE PROHIBITION CAUSE.

Edited by F. S. SPENCE

ADDRESS . . . TORONTO, ONT.

Subscription, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS a Year.

NOTE.—It is proposed to make this the cheapest Temperance paper in the world, taking into consideration its size, the matter it contains and the price at which it is published.

Every friend of temperance is earnestly requested to assist in this effort by subscribing and by sending in facts or arguments that might be of interest or use to our workers. The editor will be thankful for correspondence upon any topic connected with the temperance reform. Our limited space will compel condensation. No letter for publication should contain more than two hundred words—if shorter, still better.

TORONTO, JUNE, 1896.

PROHIBITION CANDIDATES.

Never before in the history of Canada was the temperance question forced upon the attention of Parliamentary candidates to the same extent as it is in the present campaign. From every part of the country we hear of candidates being pledged to support prohibition.

Friends of our cause have acted wisely in this respect. They ought to take advantage of this opportunity. By judicious management there may be secured representatives favourable to our cause, from a good majority of the constituencies. The immediate future of the prohibition question is now in the hands of the temperance electors and upon their wisdom and energy will depend the action of the Parliament to be returned on the 23rd inst.

THE PLEBISCITE PROPOSAL.

The Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance at a meeting held in the City of Montreal, laid down in reference to parliamentary candidates, a policy which deserves careful consideration.

The ground taken by the Convention may be briefly summarized as follows:

1. In the coming campaign prohibitionists should support only candidates who are known, avowed and reliable prohibitionists, wherever such candidates are in the field.

2. Where neither candidate comes up to the standard, and both are otherwise equally desirable, the preference should be given to the Liberal candidate, in view of the fact that the Liberal Party is pledged to take a plebiscite of the Dominion electorate on the question of prohibition and to promote prohibition legislation if such a plebiscite should show a majority for prohibition.

It must be admitted that if we had no hope of securing a prohibitory law from the Dominion Parliament, it would be wise to accept the plebiscite proposition coupled with such promises of legislation as have been made by the Liberal Leaders.

The Temperance cause will however, be best served at the present time by electors paying more attention to candidates than to parties.

The Conservative Party is not committed to opposition of a plebiscite. Hon. G. E. Foster has been one of the strongest plebiscite advocates. Many other leading Conservatives have supported his views. A plebiscite taken with the approval of both parties in Parliament would be better for us than

a plebiscite to which one party was opposed.

Our friends will then in our opinion, act wisely by supporting candidates pledged to support prohibition regardless of mere party exigencies. Where such candidates cannot be secured then they will help the cause by supporting, regardless of parties, candidates pledged to take a plebiscite and enact prohibition if the plebiscite will warrant their doing so.

It will be well also to pledge even prohibition candidates to support the taking of a plebiscite in case they fail to secure the direct enactment of a prohibitory law.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL DECISION.

The full text of the decision of the Imperial Privy Council has been made public and it is to be regretted that direct replies have not been given to all of the questions submitted.

The judgment has unhesitatingly and clearly affirmed the authority of the Ontario Local Option Law, and by implication has declared the right of every provincial legislature to give electors the right of locally outlawing the liquor traffic.

To the ordinary reader the argument submitted in the support of this decision conveys the impression that the Judges believed the local legislatures to have full power to prohibit any liquor trafficking that begins and ends within the territorial jurisdiction of such legislatures. The only reservation seems to be that such legislation would be superseded by a prohibitory law enacted by the Dominion Parliament.

Their Lordships, the Judges, who gave this decision, have however, taken care to state that they do not render a definite judgment upon any question except that of local option, which came before them in the concrete form of law, they declining to give replies having the force of judgments to any of the other questions dealt with.

Some lawyers consider that the argument presented in vindication of local option would not also necessarily establish the legality of a provincial prohibition law if such a law were enacted.

No formal interpretation of the decision has however, been made by the Ontario Government. Upon that Government now devolves the duty of interpreting the decision and declaring what action will be taken in reference to it. This will have to be done, in view of Sir Oliver Mowat's pledge to introduce into the Ontario Legislature a prohibitory law if the decision would warrant his doing so.

We shall, therefore in all probability have within a few weeks, an interpretation of the Privy Council judgment, by one of the best constitutional lawyers in the British Empire, with the interpretation accompanied by a definite statement as to what action the Ontario Legislature will be invited to take in view of that decision.

LOCAL OPTION.

Every friend of the temperance cause will be delighted with the fact that the Privy Council judgment emphatically upholds the validity of the Ontario Local Option Law.

There is now open before us a splendid field for immediate and effective activity. Local option campaigns will wipe out the liquor traffic in scores of localities and at the same time will bring on agitation and discussion that must have a beneficial educative effect.

By different forms of local option, the liquor traffic has been entirely legalized in the Province of Prince Edward Island. By local option the

traffic is limited to two counties in Nova Scotia. By local option the greater part of New Brunswick is under prohibitory law. Nearly four hundred parishes in Quebec are free from the liquor traffic. In Manitoba prohibition by-laws cover many municipalities.

Everywhere that it has been fairly tried, local option has proved its worth as a weapon that the liquor traffic dreads. The Privy Council has just declared that the electors of Ontario are competent to wield that weapon.

Earnestly we appeal to our friends to study the situation, to avail themselves of the present opportunity to bring on campaigns for the enactment of local option by-laws in every municipality in which there is a likelihood of such campaigns meeting with success.

THE PARLIAMENTARY BAR.

A good deal of discussion has taken place over the question of liquor selling within the precincts of the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa. This was provoked by unseemly occurrences in the House of Commons, where some members appeared in a decidedly discreditable condition. The matter was much canvassed and the offence strongly condemned in many quarters. On the other hand members of Parliament made strong statements as to the general sobriety and good conduct of the House. These disclaimers however, did not affect the stated facts.

Whether or not the sale of liquor in the Parliament Buildings is to be credited with the unseemly conduct of a few members, it will readily be admitted that a public bar in the Parliament Buildings is neither desirable or defensible. Unfortunately, we understand the liquor selling is carried on without a regular license from the Provincial authorities. It is in some way supposed to be under the sanction of the House of Commons, but the House of Commons should not encourage liquor selling without the legal sanction that it requires elsewhere.

A simple solution of the whole difficulty is the total abolition of liquor selling in the Parliament Buildings. There ought to be no difficulty about this. There are many strong friends of temperance in Parliament. They should take action at the earliest possible moment to terminate an offensive and discredited institution in defence of which little can be said. Our friends in the constituencies will do wisely by taking advantage of the present election campaign to pledge parliamentary candidates to the abolition of parliamentary liquor selling. Every candidate should be pledged to support action in this direction.

THE BRITISH ROYAL COMMISSION.

The Royal Commission appointed by the Imperial Government to investigate the liquor question has commenced its operations. Its first session was held on Tuesday, May 12th, in the old Palace Yard, London. By express commission of Her Majesty future sessions will be held in the Queen's Robing Room in the House of Lords. Strong committees representing the temperance societies and the liquor traffic respectively, have been organized and have employed prominent counsel to advocate their respective views before the Commission. The temperance committee is known as the Central Evidence Board. The members of the Royal Commission are: Viscount Peel (the late Speaker), the Earl of Jersey, Viscount de Vesci, the Bishop of London, Sir Algernon Edward West, Sir W. H. Houldsworth, M.P., Sir Frederick Seager Hunt, M.P., Sir

Charles Cameron, the Rev. Hercules Henry Dickinson, Messrs. W. Allen, M.P., W. S. Crane, Alex. Morison, Gordon, W. Graham, Henry Grinling, Samuel Hyslop, Andrew Johnston, John Hy. Roberts M.P., Henry Riley Smith, Charles Walker, John Lloyd Wharton, T. P. Whittaker, M.P., Alfred M. Wingrain, M.P., Samuel Young M.P., and George Younge.

ALCOHOL AND THE STOMACH.

As soon as alcohol in any of the intoxicating drinks (or in any form) is received into the stomach it commences its destructive work. One of its effects is upon the gastric juice which is secreted from the lining membrane of this organ, nature's greatest agency in the process of digestion. It at once seizes upon that secretion and separates or precipitates from it one of its most important constituents, pepsine, without which digestion is a failure. So that process is retarded, impaired or partially or completely suspended until the alcohol passes out of the stomach, by absorption or otherwise, and a new secretion of gastric juice takes place, or until the juices of the stomach redissolve the precipitated pepsine. So we come at once upon the stubborn fact that while alcohol will dissolve many of the resins, gums, etc., under no circumstances will it dissolve, or digest food, but it is a preserver of them.

When we desire to prevent a tumor, a bone, a portion of a limb, large or small, removed by the surgeon, we always preserve it in alcohol. Snakes, lizards, etc., are preserved and kept for ages in the same manner.

Why do we use alcohol? Simply because it will prevent decomposition and will not digest. That's all. And yet how many are stupid and ignorant enough to sip beer, wine, stout, or brandy while partaking of a meal.

I suppose that is their theory for food "sticking by the rib." Yes, it does stay with them a good deal longer for it.

The continued use of alcoholics, as beer for instance, causes the stomach to gradually become weakened and lose much of its tonicity. That atony causes loss of appetite, and the organ fails to wake up to its duty by indicating its desire for food until it has a little stimulating assistance in the old way, as it has become so accustomed to depend upon it. So a person in that condition contracts the belief that he must have an alcoholic for an appetizer, while another, equally imbecile, thinks he must have it as a digestive. And yet if either one should find his house on fire he would not throw on kerosene oil to extinguish the flames, though it would be just as rational an application as alcohol in the former instance. Dr. Hammond has clearly demonstrated through experimental investigation that alcohol taken with food produces injurious effect akin to the excessive use of food. One writer says, "Its use is qualitative abuse as gluttony is quantitative intemperance."

The same writer says, "The testimony of two million total abstainers in England shows that health is improved by disuse of such poisonous liquids." The one drinking alcoholics at meal time as above indicated is using the means to produce very different results from those he anticipates. By the irritation of the drink upon the stomach, which he deludedly calls appetite, he often eats an undue quantity, weakens the walls of the stomach, and causes digestion to become a laborious process.

Oh man, that thou couldst see thyself.—Dr. Mann, in the *International Good Templar*.

DOMINION W. C. T. U.

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MRS. BASCOM,
Manager.

Selections.

THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD.

By Mrs. M. C. EDWARDS.

The Church and the World walked far apart
On the changing shores of time;
The World was singing a giddy song,
And the Church a hymn sublime.
"Come, give me your hand," cried the merry World,
"And walk with me this way"
But the good Church hid her snowy hand,
And solemnly answered, "Nay,
I will not give you my hand at all,
And I will not walk with you;
Your way is the way to endless death;
Your words are all untrue."

"Nay, walk with me but a little space,"
Said the World, with a kindly air.
"The road I walk is a pleasant road,
And the sun shines always there.
My path, you see, is a broad, fair one,
And my gate is high and wide:
There is room enough for you and for me
To travel side by side."

Halt shyly the Church approached the World,
And gave him her hand of snow,
The old World grasped it, and walked along,
Saying in accents low:
"Your dress is too simple to suit my taste:
I will give you pearls to wear,
Rich velvets and silks for your graceful form,
And diamonds to deck your hair,"
The Church looked down at her plain white robe,
And then at the dazzling World,
And blushed as she saw his handsome lip
With a smile contemptuous curled.

"I will change my dress for a costlier one,"
Said the Church with a smile of grace.
Then her pure white garments drifted away,
And the world gave in their place
Beautiful satin and shining silk,
And roses and gems and pearls;
And over her forehead her bright hair fell
Crisped in a thousand curls.

"Your house is too plain," said the proud old World,
"I'll build you one like mine--
Carpets of Brussels, and curtains of lace,
And furniture ever so fine."
So he built her a costly and beautiful house,
Splendid it was to behold;
Her sons and her beautiful daughters dwelt there
Gleaming in purple and gold.
The Angel of Mercy flew over the Church
To gather the children in:
But some were off at the midnight ball,
And some were off at the play,
And some were drinking in gay saloons,
So she quietly went her way.

Then the sly World gallantly said to her,
"Your children mean no harm,
Merely indulging in innocent sports;"
So she leaned on his puffed arm,
And smiled and chatted, and gathered flowers,
As she walked along with the World,
While millions and millions of deathless souls
To the horrible gulf were hurled.
"You give too much to the poor," said the World:
"Far more than you ought to do
If the poor need shelter, and food, and clothes,
Why need it trouble you?
Go, take your money and buy rich robes,
And horses and carriages fine,
And pearls and jewels and dainty food,
And the rarest and costliest wine.
My children they dote on all such things;
And if you their love would win,
You must do as they do, and walk in the ways
That they are walking in."
Then the Church held tightly the strings of her purse
And gracefully lowered her head
And sinpered, "I've given too much away:
I'll do, sir, as you have said."

So the poor were turned from her doors in scorn;
And she heard not the orphan's cry;
And she drew her beautiful robes aside
As the widows went weeping by.
And the sons of the World and the sons of the Church
Walked closely hand and hand,
And only the Master who knoweth all
Could tell the two apart.

Then the Church sat down at her ease, and said:
"I am rich, and in goods increased,
I have need of nothing, and naught to do
But to laugh and dance and feast."
And the sly World heard her and laughed in his sleeve,
And mockingly said aside:
"The Church is fallen, the beautiful Church,
And her shame is her boast and pride."

The Angel drew near to the mercy-seat,
And whispered in sighs her name;
And the saints their anthems of rapture hushed
And covered their heads with shame.
And a voice came down through the hush of heaven,
From Him who sat on the throne,
"I know thy works, and how thou hast said
I am rich; and hast not known
That thou art naked, poor, and blind,
And wretched before My face;
Therefore, from My presence I cast thee out,
And blot thy name from its place."
—*Baltimore Christian Advocate.*

THE SPRING TIDE THAT CARRIED AWAY GRAN'SIR'S MUG.

"Cephas, do look at there're boy!"
said old lady Smith, watching from a window her grandson Peter.

Cephas Smith, who was in the room, smacking his lips over a mug, came to the window, and remarked:
"It is a dreadful high tide. Peter's hencoop may have to go. I've told that boy more'n fifty times to put his hens somewhere else."

"Yes, it is a master tide. It keeps a-comin' in and a-comin', and all the time this 'ere storm is a-blowin' guns down the chimney. Just hear it! And that tide is a-risin', and keeps a-comin' in, nearer, nearer, jest like a livin' and breathin' bein'. Oh! I don't like such things."

While she spoke she sharply watched her husband. She was now thinking of another tide that for some time had been rising, even Cephas Smith's habit of drinking.

He had just taken his favorite mug of flip at the kitchen stove, and nigh the kitchen cupboard.

Grandmother Smith had had a confidential talk with Peter, now in the yard, trying to prop up his hen-coop. She had frankly confessed to Peter that "Gran'sir was gettin' into a dreadful foolish habit," and "what to do she didn't know."

"I'd a' slave myself to stop his drinkin'. He'll jest ruin hisself, Petie." Here Grandmother Smith buried her face in the folds of her long apron and sobbed pitifully.

"Dreadful foolish!" cried Peter. "It's dreadful wicked!"

Then he did not know but he had gone altogether too far in thus speaking his mind, and he went up to Grandmother Smith, and began, by way of reparation, to stroke her back fondly and pityingly.

"Don't worry, Grandma. He—he—don't think. He—may be real sorry inside, but the drink gets the better of him. Now—now don't worry. I'll stand by ye, and perhaps—why, who knows?—between us both, we may do something. We can put our heads together, you know."

This made Grandmother Smith smile, for Peter was just a small boy, and his head was not a very big one. At any rate, his curly head did not seem very large beside Grandmother's, with big folds of soft white hair all about it, and outside of that a fluffy white cap and its ribbons and bows.

Then there was silence. What next? "We can pray, grandma," murmured Peter.

"Yes, dear, we will do that," said Grandmother soberly.

And that very night two pairs of hands were folded in prayer—one in Grandmother's chamber, and one in a little nook under the low slanting roof where Peter slept.

The conference with Peter came into the Grandmother's thoughts as she and Gran'sir Smith stood side by side at the

window, and watched the high tide deepening round Peter's hen-coop.

"There may be chance for Peter to save his hen-coop by all his sticks and props," observed Gran'sir Smith, "but he ought to have built on higher ground, and I will tell him so."

He took his old tarpaulin hat from its nail and went out into the yard.

"Peter," he shouted, as he faced the storm, "you ought to have built on higher ground!"

"I think so too. Do you know, grand'sir, that the shed is in danger?"

"You—you—don't say!"

He looked at the shed, now encompassed by water.

The Smiths lived on a lane that ran down to a river making in from the sea, and subject, in certain storms, to violent tides. An "equinoctial," for instance, would beat down fiercely, and scourge the river as it were to madness.

The tide was now rising steadily about the hen-coop, and threatening soon to lift it on its blue shoulders and bear it away. Peter prudently had removed his hens to a safe retreat.

What safety was there for the hen-house? It was the shed, though, that was now the object of anxiety.

"I see that there is suthin' to be done about that 'ere shed," remarked gran'sir. "I will be back soon."

He went into the kitchen, prepared a stiff mug of flip, and drank it down eagerly.

"Oh, Cephas!" moaned Grandmother. "Now, wife, why do you say anything? I have a hard job before me."

She wiped her tears in reply. She knew that gran'sir already had had more mugs of flip than he could carry off.

"You're cryin'!"
"Yes; you can't handle yourself out there."

"Can't I handle myself? You'll see, you'll see, madam! I think I can!"
It was a foolish boast.

He strutted across the yard, but unsteadily, and went into a shed to get a joist with which to prop up the shed on the outside. The Smith lot went down to the river. Here a wharf had been built, and the shed and hen-house were on this wharf, the rear wall of each coming to the wharf's edge.

Gran'sir went to the edge of the wharf to see where he could best set up his prop. He was feeling the liquor he had drunk. He made a careless movement, and down he tumbled, and over the edge of the wharf he went!

"Help! help!" rang out his voice. Peter was on hand, small boy though he was. Somebody else was on hand—Grandmother Smith. She came fluttering out of the house, and then ran to the wharf. In her hand she carried her old red shawl. The faded fabric was homely now, but it was strong. Holding on to her end firmly, she flung out the other end to Gran'sir Smith.

"Ketch it, ketch it!" she shrieked. Gran'sir Smith grabbed it.
"Now, Peter help your grandma! Pull in! Altogether—now!"

Grandmother Smith showed herself an expert. Peter did his share. They pulled him over the edge of the wharf. How they did it, they could not say. Then they led him into the house. He was put into dry clothes. He was placed before the kitchen fire.

He looked so comfortable there before the cheerfully purring fire. He wore a blue dressing-gown that Grandmother Smith had made for him, and it contrasted finely with his long white hair that the same faithful wife had brushed back from his forehead.

Now and then he looked up at the old flipmug on the mantle over the stove, glancing down at his blue dressing gown. He looked very solemn.

"What are you thinkin' of, Cephas?"
"I was thinkin' if I had looked this way, all slicked up so neat, if I had gone down to the bottom of the river."

"Oh—oh, husband, don't speak of it!"

"But I must, wife; if—if—if it hadn't been for you and Peter, I should have been down at the bottom of the river, sartin. I know why I fell over."

Here he gave a savage glance at the mug.

"Is that shed a-standin'?"
"Yes, and I believe it won't go, after all."

"Well, that hen-coop, hen-house—won't that go?"

"No, it is standin' and I don't believe it will go."

Gran'sir rose in his chair.
"Suthin' has got to go!" he said, energetically, "and it shall be that mug! Peter!"

"What, sir?"
"Take my mug and a piece of board and put the mug on the board, and

then put the board on the edge of the wharf, and then—then—here gran'sir's voice became almost terrific—"then launch her! That thing has got to go! Not going to have this tide for nothin'!"

The mug went. The tide swept about the board, drifted it away, and smothered it.

Its fate was watched from the kitchen window, and then gran'sir said:

"Now, wife, pray for me! Where's Peter? Oh, here he is! Peter, pray too! I want my appetite to be sunk way down—way down—same as that mug. God help me!"

Such a time of prayer!
The wind raved down the chimney. The rain rattled against the windows. Above all these sounds, though, could be heard the voice of Grandmother Smith earnestly crying to God; and then came a boy's voice, clear and penetrating. Never such a day in that house as the day when the spring high-tide carried away gran'sir's mug.—*S. S. Times.*

U. S. NATIONAL PROHIBITION PARTY.

The National Prohibition Party of the United States held its convention to nominate Presidential candidates at Pittsburg, Pa., on May 27th. There was a great gathering of representatives present. From the very opening of the proceedings a hard fight was waged between the narrow gaggers who wished to make prohibition the one issue of the approaching campaign, and the broad gaggers, who desired to have a platform dealing with many other questions. The principal difference of opinion was as to the silver question. A large party led by Governor St. John desired to have a plank favoring the coinage of silver in the rate of 16 to one. The majority report of the platform committee favored the single issue. A minority report presented by St. John took the other ground. On a roll call the minority report was rejected by 427 to 387. About 150 delegates left the convention and organized a new party to be known as the National Party. Hon. Joshua Levering was nominated by the Prohibition Party as President, and Hale Johnston as Vice-President. Samuel Dickie was elected Chairman of the Executive Committee. The new organization nominated Charles E. Bentley for President, and J. H. Southgate for Vice-President.

VIRGINIA.

A law went into effect on the 1st of May forbidding the sale of liquor to a student at any institution of learning in the State, including the public schools, whether the student be over twenty-one years of age or not. It applies to academies, colleges, and universities; medical, law or theological schools, or any other. The penalty is a fine of from \$25 to \$50 and imprisonment for six months; in addition the offender must give bond in \$500 to be of good behavior for a year, and a subsequent offence is to act as forfeiture of the bond.—*National Temperance Advocate.*

A CHALLENGE.

Please examine the pauper expenses and arrests for drunkenness in the license places given below, as compared with those in Quincy for the same period:—

	Popula- tion 1895.	Cost of Sup- ply for 1895	Arrests for Drunken- ness for 1895.
Newburyport.	14,552	\$22,012 01	750
Northampton.	16,764	12,001 14	451
Pittsfield.	20,461	13,658 35	820
Waltham.	20,876	13,116 83	821
Woburn.	14,178	13,476 00	600
QUINCY.	20,712	8,338 00	300

I challenge the supporters of license to show an instance where the saloon has increased the prosperity of a municipality.

HENRY H. FAXON.
Quincy, May 18th, 1896.

- Ripans Tabules cure constipation.
- Ripans Tabules gentle cathartic.
- Ripans Tabules cure torpid liver.
- Ripans Tabules cure indigestion.
- Ripans Tabules: one gives relief.
- Ripans Tabules cure biliousness.
- Ripans Tabules cure bad breath.
- Ripans Tabules assist digestion.
- Ripans Tabules cure dyspepsia.
- Ripans Tabules cure flatulence.
- Ripans Tabules cure headache.
- Ripans Tabules cure dizziness.
- Ripans Tabules: at druggists.
- Ripans Tabules cure nausea.
- Ripans Tabules.

A METHODIST MANIFESTO.

The Methodist Conferences now in session in different parts of the Dominion are speaking out with their usual energy and directness on the question of temperance. As an example of the strongly worded reports that are being adopted we publish the following, which was the unanimous finding of the Montreal Methodist Conference:

Your Committee remember with gratitude that from the days of the Wesleys to the present, our Church has had an intelligent and hearty sympathy with the great temperance reform. Our attitude as a Church has been and must continue to be one of uncompromising hostility to the liquor traffic until its evils shall cease to exist in our midst.

We commend careful home training in the principles of total abstinence from all intoxicants.

We remind our Sabbath Schools of the pledge that so many have taken, and hope that all members of the school may be so plodged, and that more careful yearly returns of all such be made to the conference.

We are glad that our Epworth League and young people's societies in connection with the Church have special departments devoted to this great and growing cause, and we trust that they will continue to give special prominence to temperance work.

We would also urge our representative men to insist that temperance instruction authorized by law be duly recognized in all our public schools.

Our ministers will not fail to bring the claims of total abstinence before their congregations every year.

Your committee heartily commend those newspapers that at great financial sacrifice exclude from their columns the advertisements of the liquor interests, and deplore the fact that so many otherwise respectable periodicals have not as yet seen their way clear to declare in favor of total abstinence and prohibition.

The important judgment recently rendered by the Imperial Privy Council on the question of jurisdiction regarding prohibitory legislation, having reaffirmed the authority of the Dominion Parliament alone to pass a law for the total prohibition of the liquor traffic, and also maintaining the local option legislation of Ontario, and confirming the right of municipal councils to enact prohibitory by-laws, in the province of Quebec, it is of the highest importance that in the approaching general elections to the Dominion Parliament, and all provincial and municipal elections, Methodist electors support by their influence and votes such candidates as are known and avowed prohibitionists, and who can be depended upon to loyally support prohibitory legislation regardless of party exigencies, candidates practicing total abstinence principles to always have the preference.

We recommend the friends of temperance to continually press upon their representatives the duty of enacting the utmost measure of prohibitory legislation within their power.

That the conference deeply deplores the fact that the sale of intoxicating liquor has been so long permitted within the precincts of the House of Commons at Ottawa. The facilities thus officially provided by our government for the supply of liquor ought not to have the countenance of a Christian people. We earnestly hope that the parliament about to be elected will at once abolish this unseemly and unnecessary phase of the liquor traffic.

That this conference reaffirms its declaration in favor of the plebiscite on the question of prohibition as offering a grand opportunity of disseminating temperance and prohibition instruction, and of registering the will of the people of Canada on this great question, apart from all political or party complications.

We exceedingly regret that this subject of prohibition has received such scant consideration by the parliament of Canada. During the thirty sessions of the House of Commons that have been held since Confederation in only one has there been introduced and passed any prohibitory legislation.

We deem it but fair to remind our people that while neither of the two great political parties now before the country has declared in favor of prohibition, one has entirely ignored the question while the other has put the matter of taking a plebiscite on the question of prohibition as a plank in

its platform; and on the hustings the leader, Mr. Laurier, has promised that in the event of his accession to power, if a declaration in favor of prohibition be the result of said plebiscite his administration will enact a prohibitory law in regard to the liquor traffic.

We reaffirm the paragraph of the conference report of 1883 which reads as follows: That we as a conference declare that in view of the magnitude of the evils of intemperance, so apparent to all; and the great barrier to the extension of Christ's kingdom, which the liquor traffic undoubtedly is, no government having the power to prohibit the traffic and neglecting to do so is worthy of the support of Canadian electors.

TOBACCO.

That while not desiring to interfere with the personal conscientious judgment of any man, it is the solemn conviction of this conference that the best qualification for faithful and efficient service in the cause of Christ cannot be attained by persons who indulge in the use of tobacco in any form. For this reason as well as others, we earnestly appeal to all our members to entirely abstain from its use.

Your committee recommend that the conference comply with the request of the Dominion Alliance to send four delegates to the annual meeting of the Alliance council, and that the delegates be the Rev. John Webster, the Rev. C. D. Baldwin, Mr. George M. Webster and Mr. Arthur Chown.

That it be an instruction of this conference to its ministers to read this report in their congregations next Sabbath.

VICTIMS OF DRINK.

SOCIETY WOMEN ADDICTED TO THE USE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

A reporter of the New York Recorder recently interviewed a woman doctor who conducts an institution in Brooklyn for the treatment of female inebriates. Following are a few facts gleaned:

She was rather reticent when it came to discussing her work, says the interviewer, but was enthusiastic. She said that many persons would undoubtedly be surprised if they knew of the large number of women in Brooklyn who are victims of drink. It has been stated, she said, that most of the drinking women were prominent in social affairs.

"This statement," said she, "has been denied by several, yet it is reasonable to say that it is true. In the natural course of events society women are more likely to drink than those who are not interested in social affairs. This is because they are under a constant strain. Any one will tell you there is nothing more trying than the duties of a society woman in a large city.

Take, for example, a woman, not strong physically, who has something on in the afternoon and then a dinner and a dance, and even perhaps the theater in the evening. When she finishes her afternoon affair, she is tired out. She cannot eat and does not want to go to sleep. She takes a glass of champagne. Only a little glass at first. The effect surprises her. She feels 100 per cent better and able to go through the evening and enjoy herself more than she had done in weeks. The next day it is the same. The one glass suffices, and she apparently feels no evil effects from the wine.

"But there comes a day when one glass of champagne does not satisfy her. She takes two. The next night she drinks three, and then her downward course is rapid. In the weeks that follow she makes the discovery that wine does not taste as it did—it does not satisfy that awful craving. She experiments a bit. She finds that brandy does what the wine fails to do, so she drops the latter and becomes addicted to the former. Whisky is the next step, and the next in many cases is morphine or some other narcotic. And the next step is death—that is, unless the victim is brought up with a round turn. This is how most of the women start. How they end depends entirely upon themselves."

BRITISH SONS.

The British National Division Sons of Temperance has just held its 41st Annual Session at Darlington. The report showed a membership of nearly 50,000. 161 representatives were present.

BRITISH DAUGHTERS.

Nearly 200 ladies were present at the Annual Meeting of the British Women's Total Abstinence Union held at Zion College, London, on May 13th. Lady Biddulph, the newly elected President, occupied the chair. The number of affiliated societies was reported as being 183.

TWO MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR FOR WHISKY.

In round numbers 51,000 barrels of domestic whisky were consumed in New York city during 1895, while during the same period, say men who know, 48,000 barrels of domestic alcohol were used to "stretch" or "blend" this whisky. Beaufort's Wine and Spirit Gazette estimates that enough other liquids were mixed with these to make New York's total capacity for whisky in 1895 130,000 barrels. This, in drinks, cost the thirsty men and women of Gotham away over \$2,000,000.—Selected.

A WONDERFUL WORK.

The work among children in Great Britain is carried on with an energy and success that ought to be instructive to Canadian workers. On the 13th of last month, the United Kingdom Band of Hope Union held its 41st anniversary. The annual reports showed that there were in the United Kingdom 22,302 Bands of Hope and other Juvenile Temperance Societies, with an aggregate membership of 2,813,000. This was an increase of 848 societies and 70,000 members over last year. A number of addresses were delivered by leading workers.

THE PROHIBITION BATTLE.

CHEERING NEWS FROM THE FIELD OF FIGHT.

A meeting of Methodists held in Brantford on May 20th, declared its confidence in Mr. Wm. Patterson, the Liberal candidate, and called upon prohibitionists to loyally come to his support. Mr. Patterson has always been an ardent and consistent prohibitionist.

In Charlotte Co., N.B., Mr. Ganon, the Conservative candidate, has publicly declared that he will do everything in his power to secure the enactment of a prohibitory law.

A TEAM IN THE FIELD.

Hamilton prohibitionists have nominated a second independent candidate for the House of Commons. At a convention held on Thursday, May 21st, Mr. Frederick W. Watkins, President of the Advanced Prohibitionists, was selected to contest this constituency along with Mr. W. W. Buchanan, editor of *The Templar*, who has been in the field for some time. Both candidates are known to be earnest and enthusiastic candidates of immediate total prohibition. Committee Rooms have been opened, and a vigorous campaign is in progress.

P. E. I., W. C. T. U.

The W.C.T.U. workers of Prince Edward Island have organized a Provincial Union which held its first meeting in Charlottetown, commencing on Friday, May 22nd. A good attendance of workers was on hand, and the proceedings were full of interest. Mrs. Strong, Summerside, was elected President, Mrs. Holman, Summerside, Corresponding Secretary, and Mrs. Matheson, Recording Secretary.

SUNDAY CLOSING.

The friends of the temperance cause in the Imperial Parliament have won a substantial victory in the carrying of the second reading of the Sunday Closing Bill which was carried by a majority of eight. Although the measure is not expected to become law during the present Parliament, this step of progress is hailed with acclaim. The following is the wording of this important measure: "Whereas the provisions in force against the sale of intoxicating liquors during certain hours of the Sunday have been found to be attended with great public benefits, and it is expedient to extend such provisions to the other hours of Sunday. Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lord's spiritual and temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—(1) After

the 10th day of October, 1896, all premises in which intoxicating liquors are sold or exposed for sale by retail, shall be closed during the whole of Sunday, subject to the provisions (except as to the hours of closing on that day) of the Licensing Acts, 1872-74. (2) This Act shall not apply to Scotland, Ireland, or the Principality of Wales. (3) This Act may be cited for all purposes as the Sunday Closing Act, 1896."

A GREAT WORK.

The National Temperance Society and Publishing House of the United States, held its 31st annual meeting at 58 Reed St., New York, on Thursday, May 14th. A report was presented showing a year's earnest work on educational lines, special prominence being given to the very successful missionary work among colored people of the southern States. The number of pages of literature printed in different forms during the year was 22,671,270, making a total number of pages printed since the organization of the society of 964,045,582. Rev. Joshua L. Bailey was re-elected President.

THE B.W.T.A.

Cable reports give an interesting account of the enthusiastic gathering of the British Women's Temperance Association in their 20th Annual Council. Miss Agnes Weston presided. Among the distinguished visitors were Miss Frances E. Willard, President of the W.C.T.U.; Lady Henry Somerset, President of the B.W.T.A., and Canon Wilberforce. Fuller mention of the work done will be made later on.

QUEBEC ALLIANCE.

The Annual Meeting of the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance was held in Montreal on Tuesday, May 26th, Mr. J. R. Dougall, President, in the chair. Reports were received of the replies made by Parliamentary candidates to questions submitted by the Alliance. The most important business transacted was the adoption of the following report of the Committee on Political Action, presented by Rev. A. M. Phillips:—"That this Alliance deems it the duty of the prohibitionist electorate to use all possible means to secure direct representation in the House of Commons at the approaching elections, in accordance with the report on political action adopted by the Dominion Prohibition Convention held in Montreal on July 18, 1894, either through the representative or the political party.

That the following course for political action be suggested:—

1.—Where the candidates of the political parties are known and avowed prohibitionists, then the elector may support either, according to his preference.

2.—Where one is a prohibitionist and the other is not, then political party feeling should be sacrificed and the prohibitionist receive the support.

3.—Where neither is a prohibitionist, and it is not practicable to bring out an independent candidate, then the support should be given to the political party which has pledged itself to promote prohibitory legislation where the candidate of the party can be conscientiously supported.

4.—The Dominion Government of the day, in its manifesto to the electors, makes no reference to the question of temperance, and has wholly ignored the prohibition issue, as well as by parliamentary action refused to give any pledge to promote prohibitory legislation, and whereas, the Opposition did place it as plank 19 in the party platform at the National Liberal Convention held at Ottawa in June, 1893: that, whereas, public attention is at present much directed to the admittedly great evils of intemperance, it is desirable the minds of the people should be clearly ascertained on the question of prohibition by means of a Dominion plebiscite, in reference to which, Mr. Laurier, leader of the Liberal party, has said that he would plenge his honor as a man that, as soon as the Liberals came into power at Ottawa, they would take a plebiscite all over the Dominion, and by that declaration the party would stand, and the will of the people would be carried out, were it to cost power for ever to the Liberal party. This, the *Montreal Gazette* says, "is one of the largest promises ever made by a political leader."

Full replies not having been received from candidates in all districts, we recommend that the application of these principles be left to the local branches of this Alliance, or, where there is no local organization, to the General Executive.