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THE LIQUOR LICENSE.

What's the price of a license? How much did you say?
The price of men's souls in the market to-day?
A license to sell, to defame and destroy,
From the gray hairs of manhood to the innocent boy—
How much is to pay?

How much is to pay? How compare with your gold
A license to poison a crime oft' retold—
Fix a price on the years and the manhood of man;
Take what is not yours to destroy, if you can—
What's the price did you say?

How much for a license? How compute the crimes
Men are caused to commit when besotted oft times?
To take character, reason, freedom to the grave;
And give men your curses when pity cries save—
What's the price did you say?

How much for license? Count the price of the home,
Of the tears that are shed in its anguish and gloom;
Count the happiness lost on the ballot you gave
When you voted the license that made man a slave.
What price was to pay?

How much for a license? Count the price of her life
Whom your children called mother, and whom you called wife;
Who died of her grief, heart-broken alway
That her home must be taxed for its bread, day by day,
The license to pay.

The license means dramshop; stop fathers and think:
Was it your vote that licensed your own son to drink.
Count the measure you mete out your neighbor to-day
To be meted you back in your own time and way,
'Tis a debt you must pay.

How much is to pay? Count the price of one soul,
Multiplied by the names on eternity's scroll,
Of those who've gone down in manhood's strong pride;
Then add those who through them have suffered and died,
What's the price did you say?

How much is to pay? You can count out the gold
But the price to be paid time never has told;
All have claims on your soul whom your vote caused to sin;
Though your name men call white, as scarlet your sins,
The atonement must pay.

GRAND DIVISION

OF THE

SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF N. B.

THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

The Thirty Ninth annual session of the Sons of Temperance of N. B. was held at Moncton, opening at 7.30 p. m. on the 20th inst. in the Pythian Hall. Grand Worthy Patriarch Vroom presided, and the following other Grand officers were present, Grand Scribe Thomson, Grand Treasurer Whittaker, Grand Conductor Thorne, Grand Sentinel Price. Among the prominent members of the order present, were Past Most Worthy Associate Everett, M. P; P. G. W. P. Robinson; P. G. W. P. McCarthy; P. G. W. A. Mott; P. G. W. A. Graham; P. G. Scribe, S. B. Patterson; P. G. Conductor Pitts; P. G. Sentinel Anslow and others.

The Grand Division was opened in due form. On motion, carried, that when the Grand Division adjourns, it adjourn to meet after the Reception to be held in the Methodist Church.

The Grand Conductor announced the following candtdates in waiting for initiation.

Wm. Scribner, Rosefield Division, No. 280.
D Stewart. Louison, 297, Restigouche.
J Archibald, do do do
J T Cain. Richibucto 242, Richibucto.
S B Bustin, Gordon, 275, St. John.
J Kenny, do do
G Ayer, Victoria, 245, Victoria Mills.
F W Steeves, Moncton, 183, Moncton.
A McFarlane, Dover, 70, Dover.
A Steeves, do do
J T Haines, Richibucto, 42.
F A Steeves, Coverdale, 295.
W Lutes, do
E Gunning, do
J Keenan, Lewisville, 285
Miss Skillen, St, Martins. 164.
Mrs. G W Masters, do
A J Main, Victoria, 245, Victoria Mills.
J Murray, Buctouche, 271.
A A Wells, Baie Verte, 65.
E Gooden, do
W Crawford, Victoria, 245.
A Matthews, Intercolonial, 243, Moncton.
L B Storms, do do do
J W Clarke, do do do
D Shaw, Moncton, 183 do
J H McKay, do do do
G H Forbes, do do do
Miss Ada Kay, do do do
Miss M Jonah, do do do
A McNeil, Intercolonial 243 do
S C Alward, Sunny Side, Salisbury.

The G. W. P. appointed Reps. Robinson Sandall, and Pitts, committee on CREDENTIALS, also Reps. E McCarthy 183, and A. J. Armstrong 250, as Com. on ENROLMENT.

The Committee on Credentials having reported the candidates were introduced and duly initiated members of the Grand Division.

On motion, carried, that the Grand Division adjourn to the Methodist Church. The members of the G. D. clothed in regalia then adjourned to the Methodist Church where a public reception was tendered them, and addresses of welcome presented from the Subordinate Division of Westmorland County, and from the Mayor of Moncton on behalf of the city.

AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME

from the subordinate Divisions to the Grand Division, by Rev. R. S. Crisp:

Grand Worthy Patriarch and Representatives of Grand Division.

A most pleasing duty has been assigned me this evening. It is that of presenting you with an address of welcome and congratulation on behalf of the local Divisions of the Sons of Temperance in this town, and I may also add on behalf of our citizens who sympathize with you in your great mission and work.

We are glad and proud to meet you here, and do most cordially welcome you to our pleasant and prosperous town.

You may have visited towns where the natural scenery is grander, where the public buildings are more magnificent, and where wealth and fashion reign more proudly and supremely. but never did you visit a town within the borders of your division where you found a heartier welcome than you find in Moncton to-night, and certainly never did you visit a town in which a stronger fight is being made with that giant foe of our race—the demon of strong drink. Leaving as you have your own happy homes for a short sojourn among us, we hope you will endeavor to feel at home with us here, and while we remember that you have met for work rather than pleasure, we will nevertheless endeavor to make your time pass as pleasantly as we can.

We welcome you also because of the value and success of your work, and because we know it will lead you on to victory. You certainly have this to encourage you in your great mission. Faith in the right and in the ultimate triumph of the right has supported you in the past, while amid the dark clouds of intemperance you saw now and then a star of hope arise to encourage you and lead you on. But now you have not only faith in the right but actual realization to inspire you with courage for the future. The work of the Temperance society is no longer an experiment. You can point to glorious results already achieved—to the great fields already won. On every side public sentiment is growing in your favor. You are making an ever-deepening impression on the hard hearts of the worldly wise politicians of our age and country. Legislation is being enacted to remove obstacles from your path, and in many ways to facilitate the beneficial results accruing to your labors. A powerful third party has risen in our midst with sufficient life in it to demand from unwilling hands the right to live, and we hope sufficient energy in it to make its struggle a successful one. Men who at one time ignored its presence now not only recognize its existence but see also in its steady step and onward march the swing of conquest. When some of the leading papers of our Dominion begin to favor prohibition we may be sure that the strength of the Temperance party is not merely felt, its voice is heard, and its demands receive more earnest attention.

And socially, what change has taken place. Only a few years ago ministers of the gospel with uplifted hands over the table on which the whiskey stood, besought a blessing on "God's good creature." Only a few years ago men were recognized as consistent members of churches who sometimes imbibed too freely. Now, ministers on every side, with a few rare and dishonorable exceptions, avoid and denounce strong drink; and to-day, to say a man is a consistent member of a church, is, as a rule, to say he is a temperance man.

And what noble results have thus been accomplished in a few years. It is not yet fifty years since the little band of sixteen men whose names history will proudly record on her brightest roles of honor, and who themselves did not fully understand the rich harvest which would be reaped from the development of the germ they planted then—it is not yet fifty years since men called themselves the "Sons of Temperance"—sons of a higher life and nobler aim than the mass around them—and yet what hath God wrought through your instrumentality before you have celebrated your first jubilee.

To-day science is on your side, and joins its hands with religion in the great Temperance reform. Alcohol has no proper place in the human system—is the voice of science to-day.

Again, you have persuaded the majority of right-thinking men that the State has no right to license men to do the Devil's work. High license cannot make that right which is in itself wrong. Never will we consent to grant a man license to ruin his fellow-men forever.

Again, you have demonstrated the fact that wherever Prohibition has been faithfully tried it has proved the best and sharpest weapon for cutting off the head of our giant foe—it is the most effective measure for suppressing the trade that above all others blights the hopes of our race.

You have also made this trade which a few years ago was regarded as rather respectable, to be branded as a most degrading and disreputable business, and the name of rum-seller is a synonym with, or cognomen of, a loathed and unprincipled wretch.

To-day medical men are reversing the old practice with regard to alcohol, and great organizations like the W. C. T. U. are with you in the field and fight. To-day temperance instruction is being introduced into the public schools and you are beginning with men at the right end of life. Asylums have been established for the reformation of confirmed drunkards and men spurn the traffic—not the man.

You have also demonstrated that moderate drinking is a delusion and a snare, and also that moral suasion is not triumphant while the government itself has the most profitable share of the rum selling in the nation, and continually tempts men to sin. Now you have a temperance literature enriched by the best religious and medical and legal minds of the age. To-day prohibition is not only in the air, but has become the prophetic watchword of all temperance men. And because of the grand success of the past, and the advantageous position of the present, and also the triumphant promise of the future, we say again, welcome, thrice welcome to our town and homes to-day.

There is one thing in connection with your work, uppermost in my mind to-night, that I must take the liberty and responsibility of briefly referring to. It is the shame and disgrace of our civilization that men should be appointed to the office of justices of the peace who are living in daily and open violation of the laws of our country. We have here in this town one of the most unprincipled men that ever walked its streets, recently appointed to the office of magistrate. Who the responsible parties in connection with the appointment are I know not. But this I know—it is the greatest outrage that ever has been perpetrated on a suspecting public in this town. That rumseller has been asked to swear that he will, in a town where the Scott Act has been adopted, keep the laws himself and enforce them on others. He has taken such an oath and still sells the rum. Cases in law are tried before him, and it is believed that in the interests of the rum party a man on a trumped up charge has this very week been sent to Dorchester for speaking the truth. If you can see your way clear to petition the government on behalf of the temperance parties of this province to remove such moral monstrosities from office, or in any way influence the minds of the government, we will not only welcome you as we do to-night, but will also assure you that the recollection of your visit will always be cherished by us with the most fraternal feelings, while we are thus led to believe that another and very necessary step has been taken in the great temperance reform.

The reading of the address was frequently applauded.

GRAND WORTHY PATRIARCH VROOM

responded, and on behalf of the Grand Division thanked the friends in Moncton for the hearty reception tendered, and the very excellent address just read. He need not say that they felt the responsibility of the work in which they were engaged, especially in view of the advanced stage of the temperance reform. Their mission was to conquer the destroyer of millions, and they felt they were sustained by the great majority of the well thinking people of this country. While seeking to draw people into their order, Sons of Temperance could not close their eyes to the fact that their principal work was the closing of the dram shops. Sons of Temperance could not tolerate license in any form, and he for one believed that those who favored high license, and some seemed to be sincere in doing so, had not followed out the work of temperance to its logical conclusion. Their position was that if the liquor traffic was right we have no business to obstruct it; if it is wrong there is nothing in the law of God to authorize its license. (Applause,) With prohibition entire, they would get all the good of a license law and none of the evil. While high license might close up the lower dens it would make the others more attractive and consequently more potent for wrong. He believed the Scott Act had done a great deal of good, had done more, in fact, in educating the people up to proper sentiments than anything else. But it did not go far enough. We wanted prohibition. He did not think either political party was prepared to adopt prohibition measure; and he trusted the day was not far distant when there would be such a united feeling on this point that representatives would be returned to parliament who would give us prohibition. Mr. Vroom again returned thanks for the kind reception tendered the delegates and resumed his seat.

The Chairman expressed regret at the absence of Lieutenant-Governor Sir Leonard Tilley, and Hon. Geo. E. Foster, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who had been expected, and amidst applause announced as the next speaker

P. M. W. A. EVERETT, ESQ., M. P.,

of St. John, who delivered an excellent address giving a few accounts of the early days of the Sons of Temperance organization and the great change that has come over formerly rum-drinking cities namely St. John where a few years ago prominent business men laughed and scorned at the temperance people, with a glass of liquor in their hand, who now dare not be seen where liquor was kept and who had to do all their drinking behind screens. He dwelt on the position many of the members of Parliament held in regard to temperance, stating that they were ready to make prohibition a plank in the house. He believed that the movement was rolling along and was succeeding in Moncton, and that the Sons of Temperance were with them.

MAYOR DUFFY

was called on and dwelt for a short time on the great subject of Temperance. He advocated a third party if the two political parties now seeking the support of the people would not listen to the claims of temperance men and women and that party was prohibition.

P. G. W. A. MOTT

being called upon delivered an excellent address, and was followed by ex-G. S. Patterson who indulged in a few witty remarks, after which the chairman made a few closing remarks and the meeting was ended by singing the doxology, and prayer by Rev. J. D. Murray.

The Grand Division then returned to the Hall and resumed business.

Several other candidates being in waiting, on motion, carried, that they be simply obligated. Alward Wells 65; Edwd. Goodin 65; Wm. Crawford 245 were duly obligated.

On motion, carried, that members of subordinate Divisions be admitted on the Quarterly Password as visitors.

The Grand Worthy Patriarch read his reports as follows:—

Officers and Members of the Grand Division.

It gives me great pleasure to meet you again in annual session assembled. Year by year as we gather together at the meetings of the Grand Division we are led to thank the Giver of all good things, for the many mercies bestowed upon us, and especially at this time should we thank Him for the good results which are apparent in our work of temperance reform. I am glad to be able to report to you that the present outlook is most encouraging not only within the order which we love so well, but in all the different branches of the work.

In this work the things which our fathers scarcely dared hope for we are beholding with our eyes. Science has thrown her light upon the use of intoxicating liquors and they are no longer considered a necessity in medicine, and in common use are shown to be absolutely hurtful.

The Church is withdrawing her countenance from the drinking habits of the people and is arraying herself in the interests of a suffering humanity and against the betrayer of her members.

Society is undergoing a change, and the wine cup at the social feast is more and more becoming a thing of the past, while the practise of total abstinence is being largely extended.

Employers of labor and labor organizations are recognizing the injurious results of the use of strong drink among laboring men, and are setting their faces strongly against the custom; and the question of the prohibition of the liquor traffic is occupying a more prominent position before the civilization of the world than ever before.

The order of Sons of Temperance has done much toward bringing about these results, and is now more actively than ever in the field.

Organized not merely as a place of refuge and shelter for its own members, but for the benefitting of the whole world, it has fostered and promoted a spirit of self-sacrifice among its members which cannot fail of good results. Just in proportion as this self-sacrificing spirit is developed, will our order prosper and increase its righteous influence.

It is gratifying to know that this unselfish spirit is not wanting among the members of our order at the present time. You will recognize it in brothers and sisters who are always in their places at the meetings of their Divisions, and are ever thoughtful of the Division's interests, and watchful over those for whom the temptation to drink, is yet strong. To such members is largely due the present standing of the Sons of Temperance. They are the pillars of our order and without them we would be poor indeed.

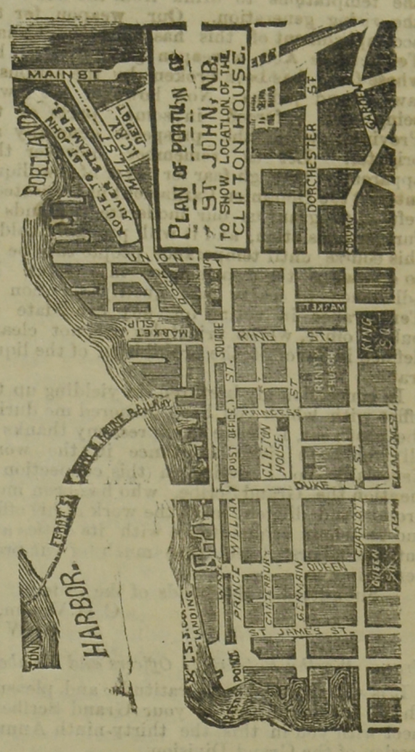
From all parts of the jurisdiction come encouraging reports from the subordinate divisions. During the year just passed there have been 33 new divisions added to our number and 4 reorganized, while none are reported as having dropped out of line. This gives us a total of 101 working divisions at the present time. The returns so far as received by the Grand Scribe show a net increase of 1872 members during the past year, making a total present membership of 6201. There is no indication of a falling off in the good work, but rather promises of increased life. Some parts of the Province have necessarily been neglected, but I trust that the propagation committee of the coming year will give more attention to unoccupied ground as the state of the finances will warrant more work than has been done heretofore. The fields are ripe for the harvest, but the laborers are not at hand. Never did we have better opportunities for expansion, and we are culpable if we let them slip.

I beg also to suggest that a certain sum of money might be profitably employed in the distribution of carefully selected temperance literature, under the control of a special committee of the Grand Division.

I am sorry to find that the list of members [illegible] by subordinate divisions for non-[illegible] of dues, is still very large. This is [illegible] it should be. In most of our divisions the dues are very light and members can easily pay them if they will, and I would urge upon subordinate divisions more strictures in the collection of dues. Let us try and place our divisions in such condition that they may be permanent headquarters for temperance workers and that from them may emanate plans that shall conquer the destroyer of millions.

We as Sons of Temperance are in a position to take the lead in the temperance reformation, and in the present advanced state of the temperance cause a great responsibility rests

Continued on Second page.



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