

Temperance Journal.

ORGAN OF SONS OF TEMPERANCE OF AMERICA

OUR MOTTO—NATIONAL PROHIBITION.

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Herman H. Pitts
Editor and Proprietor.]

"MY PAPA DETS DRUNK."

(FOR THE TEMPERANCE JOURNAL.)

Running on the icy pavement
Of the busy street,
See that child in tattered raiment—
Bare, her little feet!
"Why have you no shoes and stockings
This cold chilly day?"
Questions *One*—in accents kindly
"Answer me I pray."

From her eyes her hair she brushes—
From those wistful eyes:
"I don't dot none" (pale lips quivering)
Quaintly she replies.

"You don't dot none"—he repeats it—
Tell the reason why,
"My papa det's drunk"—she answers—
That's the reason why.

O, the old, the cruel story!
Oh, the deadly sin!
Helpless babes—the helpless victims
Of *good Rum* and *sin*.

Of *good Rum*! the Prince of darkness
Surely that name gave
Thousands yearly—tens of thousands
Fill the drunkards grave.

"My papa det's drunk"—what visions
Those sad words recall!
Wretched home, heart-broken women,
Rum has done it all.

—LIZZIE E. PALMER.

Douglas Harbor, N. B., July, 1889.

SOMEBODY'S CHILD.

When piteous plight of a man you observe,
In vassalage vile to the demon of drink,
'Twill better the purpose of charity serve
Than uttering epithets calmly to think,
His artlessness once a charmed mother beguiled,
Besotted, degraded, he's somebody's child.

To a bacchanal bound with a marital vow,
Yonder woman with children in poverty's
clothes,
With want in her face and with care on her
brow,

The shoes of the little ones out at the toes
In the arms of a father seductively smiled,
And gleefully prattling, was somebody's child.

When on youth's native countenance tokens I
see
Of tracing of Bacchus' bewildering art,
I reflect, though himself from contrition be free,
'Twere happy he break not some other one's
heart,

And I grieve for his father with woe on him
piled,
I weep for the mother of somebody's child.

For a pittance of coin a man earnestly plead
That he might-relief for his burning thirst
claim:

On his person was Alcoholic's livery spread,
Unmistaken badge of inebriate's shame;
With my hand on his shoulder I said: "Though
defiled,
Not evil but good I'll do somebody's child.

Then spread o'er his features a spasm of pain,
And burst forth the fountains by memory fed,
Hot tears of remorse from his eyes fell like rain
While he gazed at a bar as of something in
dread;

His tone was despairing, his countenance wild,
And he said: "Sir, don't tell me I'm some-
body's child."

Oh! terrible thought, that my boy should be-
come
Such a curse to himself, to his race such a
shame;

His face foully bloated, breath reeking with rum,
Dishonor and odium marring his name!
Homeless and wretched, despised and reviled,
With few to consider he's somebody's child.

Wide open the gates and alluring the lane
That leads to the drunkard's opprobrious
tomb;

How long, patient countrymen, cry you in vain
That the portals shall hide the insidious
bloom?

Oh, nation, can you with this be reconciled;
Every hour you are murdering somebody's child.

Let others do what to them seems to be right,
Before the whole world I do firmly declare:
No ballot of mine shall humanity blight,
Though I know that the name of angel is
there!

While accounted a Christian or honorably
styled,
No blood shall be on me of somebody's child.
—C. A. INGRAM in the *Pioneer*.

TEMPERANCE NEWS AND NOTES.

The Palm Leaf, published at Bombay, says that the Maharajah of the State of Baroda and his entire court are total abstainers and do all in their power to discourage the drinking habits of the people, but that the British Government is making success difficult.

There are now 130 military branches of the Army Temperance Association in India, with a membership of 13,000. The movement is in a most encouraging condition, despite many difficulties.

IS A SWEEPING CHANGE NECESSARY?

MR. EDITOR:

I wish to gather up a few thoughts and lessons from the session of the National Division just closed. I will say this that the National Division is composed of a fine body of men, staunch temperance men and generally true to the Order, but I doubt if they are representative of the Order of the Sons of Temperance as it is constituted to-day. Older and wiser heads than mine have questioned the principal of the representation as at present making up the membership of that body, and it seems to me that a change, and a most sweeping one, is necessary to bring the National Division in line with the requirements of the present times.

"Hold!" you older members will say, "You are touching on one of the fundamental principles of the Order, banish off; you must not touch the basis of representation." Just so! my friends, but the true republican, liberal, progressive tendency of the time requires that the representation shall come direct from the active, working element of the Order. I do not pretend to be a young Daniel, risen in judgment, but I do pretend to read the signs and to have dear to my heart the old Order, and I propose speaking out my mind regardless of who may take exception.

Too much sentiment and too little work is one reason why the Order is not prospering as it should.

To show a little of the fallacy of the present system of representation let me explain. Grand Worthy Patriarchs and Grand Worthy Associates, and Grand Scribes who have been elected two terms are eligible to membership in the National Division and are life members if elected by their Grand Division. There are now some thirty-five Grand Divisions, and the total number eligible to attend the N. D. from these is about 750. Of this number only 81 were present at the Annual Session at Saratoga.

Again, to attain membership in the National Division in very many cases is the goal of many temperance workers, and their presence in active temperance work, in their Subordinate and Grand Divisions is rarely if ever seen after their term of office expires. As a matter of policy they keep themselves connected with some local Division, and as a matter of routine, are re-elected year after year to the National Division.

Representatives or members who have a copy of the Journals of Proceeding of the N. D. for any recent years, who will look over the report of Credential Committee as to names who are elected each year, and those who attend the sessions of this local Division, or that of the Grand and National Divisions, will see how few keep themselves in touch with the Order after passing through the qualifying offices.

Again, I mean no disrespect to the National Division when I say that those who attend are not representative in another sense. As the membership of the Order now stands fully nine-tenths are in country districts and the real, solid work the order is doing, is undoubtedly in country localities—in small towns and villages. The whole of the attendance at the National Division is from the cities. There might have been one or two from small towns, but out of the whole membership the city representation was vasty in excess. In a way this is all right, it is that class of people who have the money generally to attend these sessions, but the point I wish to emphasize is that they do not know of the needs of Subordinate Divisions, and invariably deprecate, and vote out legislation aiming at the building up of the Order in the country districts.

There are other and still more important reasons why the basis of membership should be altered, which I do not propose making in this letter. I do not wish to be thought as starting an opposition to existing methods of work, but even

a little opposition might not do any harm. A good many of the representatives who attend these annual sessions, are strong in giving their views—It would seem sometimes when they express what "I" have seen, and where "I" have been, that it was big "I" and little National Division; but when we quietly follow them to their own homes we find them rarely if ever in a Subordinate Division or doing every day temperance work, for the cause or for the Order, although always ready to talk temperance on a platform.

It may not be for years yet, but unless I am much mistaken the representation to National Division will be based some time upon the membership of each Grand Division. That is to say that each Grand Division will have the privilege of sending one representative for every 100 or 1000 of its membership. Then each Grand Division will send its active, earnest workers, and those who can go will be sent. This "House of Lords" policy, is not the best interests of the Order in my opinion, but there will have to be a good many more "dry bones" shaken up before such a change could be made in the National Division as at present constituted. I should like to have the opinion of the members as to their ideas of the necessity of such a change.

Fraternally Yours,
A MEMBER OF N. D.

Lord Randolph Churchill's Views.

"I frankly say that I am in favor of legislation in the direction of temperance. There can be no doubt whatever that an enormous amount of the crime of the United Kingdom springs from the sale of liquor. I was talking the other day to the magistrate of a police court in a very crowded and poor part of London, and he told me that at least three-fourths of all the crime that came before him rose from the sale of drink, and what I may call a vital recourse to the public house. So we have to maintain a large criminal population in our prisons, and we have to maintain them, while the community has not the benefit of their labor. Let the capital now spent in drink flow to other industries. All trades would benefit, more food would be purchased, more clothing, more furniture, the children would be educated; and so in every way in which the money could be diverted from the liquor trade, so would the other trades be benefited. I hope I shall not get into hot water with my Tory friends for these views. I believe they are not unwise opinions; I believe they are practical and safe opinions."

Educate.

It is comforting to find something unquestionable in these days, and we feel rather inclined to dwell on it when we have it. There are so many subjects that are debatable. It is not far to seek for some of them even in Temperance work. Has any people the right to prevent the sale of liquor? Is it expedient to enforce this right, if existent? How should it be done? These are all questions on which opinion is divided to-day, and there is much to be said on both sides. The *Clarion* has its own beliefs concerning them all; and has never in the past hesitated in expressing them. But just now we are not referring to these unsettled points.

Whatever may be our opinions on the subject of the prohibition of the liquor traffic by law, there can be no doubt of the expediency and the necessity of educating public opinion to its removal. After all, this is the great work for Temperance reformers. Without it, laws are of little account. You might as well have a law without penalties, as without public opinion behind it. Except in so far as it creates such opinion, a prohibitory act on the statute books of a country whose people are not

ready for it, is useless and cumbersome.

Educate! That is the great word for us now. Educate the children, first. Teach them in their schools, and out of them, that the drinking of intoxicants is injurious. Make them see it from a physical, a moral, and a religious point of view. This is the first step, and it is a long one. We are not much more than deciding to take it yet.

Educate the people, too. There are a good many ways of doing that. The press is a good medium. The pulpit has great influence which should be used in this way. Much of it is exerted now, we are glad to know. But there is much yet lying idle. Public lecturers do very great good in this way. They reach many whom neither the press nor the pulpit convince. And the honest living of a total abstainer is perhaps the strongest of all the agencies at work for this end. Such a life is an object lesson for all, which no one can help seeing, and whose moral impresses itself more strongly every day upon the spectators.

This is really the backbone of the educational work. To be sure, there is more that can be done, if we have time. It might be worth while, perhaps, to give the politicians of the country a few lessons. Some of them might be benefited. But this is not so important as the training of the people, for a good people will have good law-makers.

It is a pleasure to know that there are organizations to-day, working with singleness of purpose for these ends. And it should give every Son of Temperance some feelings of pride to know that the Order to which he belongs is in their front rank,—not least, but honored of them all. When the night is past and the brightness of the day is upon the world, the work of the Divisions will appear on the pages of history as one of the strongest of the leaders that helped in the overthrow of the kingdom of this evil.—*Clarion*.

ONTARIO NEWS.

The members of St. Lawrence Division No. 2, Sons of Temperance, and their friends spent a pleasant time last evening in their hall, corner of Montreal and Princess streets. Strawberries, ice cream and cakes were served in abundance, after which a programme was presented equal to many heavy entertainments. The Rev. Mr. Fothergill, the newly arrived Baptist clergyman, was present and gave a pleasant and pointed address. He is an active worker in the cause of temperance. Many good temperance addresses were contained in selections made and rendered by the readers and vocalists. Bro Gordon, the W P welcomed the visitors and called on Bro Edwin Chown to preside, which that gentleman did in a pleasant and acceptable manner. Bro Cook and other young men as well as the lady members deserve the thanks of the older members of the Division for the success of the entertainment. Songs were contributed by Misses McCarney, Harold, Sissons, and Master Menary, a little dot of five years, and humorous songs by Mr. Holding, vocal duet by the Misses Nicholson; readings, Miss Menary, Messrs. Gessing, Raymond, Burton, Gates, (in character) Gardiner; accompanists, Miss Hannah Taylor. At the conclusion, a hearty vote of thanks was presented to the ladies and gentlemen who had contributed to the pleasure of the evening's entertainment.—*Kingston News*.

FRATERNAL VISIT.

On Friday evening last a large load of Sons of Temperance from Beaver (St. C) and Thorold Division, paid a fraternal visit to Beaverdams Division, the members of which were out in full force to entertain their friends. Bro J. R. Swayze took the chair, and very soon the meeting was in full swing, and a very enjoyable

time was spent. An extensive program was provided by members of the different Divisions, in the midst of which refreshments were provided by the home Division. The happy affair broke up about 11 o'clock. Bro W H Anger was with the Beavers, and Rev Bro Brethour, district lecturer, accompanied the Thorold, making a brief but stirring address in the interest of total prohibition.—*Thorold Post*.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL.

Telephone City Division, No. 99 S of T on Tuesday evening gave an ice cream social and entertainment in their hall over Vanstone's store. Mr. Thos. Webster, G W P occupied the chair, and did his duty in a pleasing and acceptable manner. The committee who had the affair in hand had arranged a good program, and that with the pleasant evening, large crowd, and ice cream made the affair a success financially and otherwise.

The program was a thoroughly, good and enjoyable one, several of the numbers being encored; but the chairman would allow no responses as it was somewhat lengthy.

The members are to be congratulated on the success of their entertainment. The Division is in a flourishing condition.—*Brantford Expositor*.

Fraternal visits and Union picnics are the order of the day in Brant County and tend greatly to advance the interests of the Order.

The quarterly meeting of the District Division of Brant County takes place at Cainsville in connection with Rising Sun Division.

Another Helper in the Work.

DEAR BRO.—In response to my request for a sample copy of the JOURNAL, I am in receipt of a copy and am very greatly pleased to find it such an able advocate of the Order and cause.

I enclose one dollar for one year's subscription, and although a great reader and having spent many dollars for reading matter I have never laid out a dollar for such a purpose with so much satisfaction as the one enclosed for the JOURNAL. Every member should be a subscriber. It not only strengthens them individually but brings our Order prominently before the public and does inconceivable good in advancing morality and temperance. Every Grand Division district should, at the very least, have one publication in the interest of the Order.

The Divisions in this jurisdiction, are active and prosperous. Our Division, "Lucyville," No. 109, elected the following officers on June 24th: Margaret A Donaldson, W P; Wm Fitch, W A; Harry L Abbott, R S; Anna Gordon, A R S; Mattinson Flint, F S; Mary Briggs, Treas; D H Ingham, Chap; Wm Riley, Con; Lizzie Hamilton, A Con; Robert Ingham, I S; Anna May White, O S.

Wishing you the prosperity you so richly merit,

I am,

Yours in L, P and F,
HARRY L ABBOTT.

Allenport, Pa., U S A, July 1st., '89.

Pine Grove Division, No. 145.

DEAR SIR,—Our Division got down rather flat last winter, but we started it again in the spring with new energy, and most of the members are trying to do all they can to promote the cause of Temperance. I am very sorry to say that we have some few members who been dishonorable enough to violate their pledge; but the most of them have been true to their vows. We have upwards of fifty members, and have initiated twelve this quarter. We had a large meeting last Saturday evening, appointed new officers for the ensuing quarter and had a very good entertainment in the way of readings, recitations and dialogues by the lady members of the Division.

Fraternally Yours,

FRED. E. PRICE.

Ludlow, July 1st, 1889.