

Temperance Department.

Constitutional Amendment.

OREGON CITY, OR.,

Oct. 16, 1882.

Christian Herald:

The proposition to amend the State constitution on the temperance question came up before the Senate for final action on the 11th, and after discussion, passed that body 18 for and 10 against it.

It came up before the House in due time, and after discussion, passed that body on the 12th, 52 for and 6 against it.

This is a copy of the amendment as proposed and passed both houses:

Resolved by the Senate, the House Concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Oregon be and the same is hereby proposed:

ARTICLE

SECTION 1. The manufacture, sale or the giving away, or the offering to sell or give away, or the keeping for sale of any spirituous, vinous, malt, distilled, fermented or intoxicating liquors whatever is forever prohibited in this State, except for medicinal, scientific or mechanical purposes.

SEC. 2. The Legislative Assembly shall provide, by law, in what manner, by whom and at what places such liquors, or any of them, shall be manufactured or sold, or kept for sale, for medicinal, scientific or mechanical purposes.

SEC. 3. The Legislative Assembly shall, without delay, pass all necessary laws, with sufficient penalties necessary to enforce this amendment.

This form was agreed to by the Alliance committee who had charge of the matter. A majority of both houses agreeing to this proposition it will be placed upon the journals of both houses with the names of those who voted both for and against the measure. It will be referred to the next Legislature, and if agreed to by a majority of both houses, then it will be submitted to the electors, and if ratified by a majority of them, then it will be a part of the constitution. The total vote of 70 votes for and only 16 against it, is very surprising to many, unexpected, and brings fresh courage to many, and, doubtless, brings the hand writing on the wall to the traffic. Congratulations are coming in fast already; one good brother says he shouted "Glory to God in the highest," and could not help it and did not want to help it. Another writes that he believed the petitions would be treated with con-

tempt and thrown into the waste basket and the friends insulted, but now "takes fresh courage, buckles on the whole armour," and cries out "What will thou have me do?"

Many poor hearts will be made to rejoice; we all ought to be glad and rejoice, and take fresh courage, and press on to sure victory in a few years, and drive the curse of curses from our fair State. All was done that could be done to defeat this measure. The power was in the 53,000 petitioners, 12,000 more than there are voters in the State. The success attained shows the wisdom of the course adopted and pursued by the Alliance. It has been kept out of parties or sects, as such all being urged to take common interest. Some of both political parties voted both for and against the measure in the Legislature. If the same policy continue, success is sure, and complete victory will be ours within four years. Agitation is needed, sermons preached, lectures delivered, literature scattered, the good news proclaimed all over the State, and the power of the press brought to the aid of this plan.

I see the *Statesman* came out boldly the next day after the vote and announced that it would do all in its power to secure the final triumph and enforcement of this amendment.

The press is a power, and now is their time to speak out for or against, no half way grounds. The simple question is, "Shall the people be heard on this problem? Shall the electors be allowed to pass directly upon this question? Can the people be trusted?" Is it not strange that any member of the Legislature would vote No on this proposition? yet there were 16! We should be generous and not criticise too harshly as to their reasons. I think the excuse that will be offered will be on constitutional grounds "That it was unconstitutional." Well, I guess that it was "unconstitutional" either in the book or in their head and hearts, think it was in the last; yet we are thankful that it was granted; we received all we asked for; and we asked for nothing but what was right.

Friends, we have silenced one battery—"That it was no use trying, that you can't get it to pass," and this was very often fired into the ears of those circulating petitions. We will hear that no more.

It has passed. Received all we asked for. We have work to do yet, work for all, but the worst is passed. Let us, one and all, go to work as never before, doing our whole duty. Let us look forward to the next session of the Alliance which will be held in Albany next February with great interest, and let us have just such a meeting on temperance as Oregon has never had—a regular State jubilee. All will be invited in due time.

Friends in Albany, look out, make room, we are coming, and we are many.

DR. J. W. WATTS,
Pres. State Temperance Alliance.

Temperance Lectures.

Christian Herald:

I expect to start out in the lecture field on next Monday, Oct. 16th, to be gone several weeks. I wish all persons having business with the Juvenile work to address their communications to Dr. J. W. Watts, of Oregon City, as I have authorized him to attend to all business in this line, and have left the supplies in his hands.

LEVI LELAND,
State Superintendent.

Oct. 14, 1882.

Tobacco and Blindness.

At the annual commencement of the Hospital College of Medicine, of Louisville, Ky., Prof. Dudley Reynolds delivered an address to the graduating students, in which he took strong ground against the use of tobacco:

It is a well known fact that tobacco deranges the digestion and poisons the nerve centers of a majority of the male members of the human family. A species of blindness, not complete but partial blindness, sufficiently great in extent to destroy the reading of ordinary type, results from the continued and excessive use of tobacco. Careful investigations have led to the discovery that that form of tobacco habit known as smoking produces the so-called amblyopia. This form of amblyopia is precisely identical in all respects with that produced from the excessive use of alcohol. Both are incurable. I know a number of persons in Louisville who are now practically blind from the excessive use of tobacco. A lady in Portland was forced to admit she had been a secret smoker of tobacco for thirty years. On abandoning the habit, the further progress of her dimness of vision ceased, though there is little hope of her regaining

that power of perception which she had already lost. She may be considered fortunate in the possession of enough vision to go about and attend her ordinary household duties. Smoking tobacco has never been known to result beneficially to any person in the world. It always lessens the sense of smell and taste; it always contaminates the breath; it always creates an unsteadiness of the muscles, through its irritating effect upon the nerves; and I know from personal experience it diminishes the capacity for mental labor. Now, if you can succeed in inducing even a few people to abandon the habit of smoking, and to pay over to a common charity fund the amount formerly spent for cigars and smoking-tobacco, the time may come when public taxation may be reduced, and the condition of the pauper, who is now miserable, made at least comfortable. If the money destroyed by burning cigars and tobacco, in Louisville could be paid into the city treasury, it would support all our charitable institutions, and pay the entire expense of the street cleaning department besides. This would reduce taxation nearly or quite one-half, and produce a corresponding improvement in the public health.—*Domestic Journal.*

Tobacco.

Of course every callow schoolboy straining at the end of a cigarette, knows more about tobacco than the whole medical faculty. But possibly an exceptional smoker may be found who will "read, ponder and digest" the reasons given by the surgeon-general of the United States Army for the prohibition of tobacco in the National Military and Naval Academies. This gentleman declares: "Beyond all other things, the future health and usefulness of the lads educated at the military school require the absolute interdiction of tobacco." The most eminent authorities testify to its evil effects on the digestive organs, the nervous system, the voice and the eyesight. A special form of irritability of the heart is named "tobacco heart." In the Ecole Polytechnique, in France, the non-smokers take the highest rank. Even down South, the chewers' paradise, the best schools forbid the use of tobacco. Prof. Richard McSherry, president of the Baltimore Academy of Medicine, declares that "the effect of tobacco on schoolboys is so marked as not to be open to