W. C. T. U. DEPARTMENT.

A DAY OF PRAYER.

BELOVED WORKERS:—For more than a decade God has blessed the temperance cause in a most especial manner. He has given victory where defeat seemed inevitable and brought good out of seeming disaster.

As an organization, He has given us a steady growth and has in a wondrous manner set his seal to our efforts in every department of work.

Our cause before the National and State Legislature has been signally blessed and the conscience of the people has been quickened and thought turned toward a better and purer living.

But the result of our thirteen years of constant prayer and endeavor with other organizations have come to us in the last two months in the submission of Prohibitory Constitutional Amendments to the will of the legal voters in the States of Tennessee, Oregon, West Virginia and Michigan and the first steps toward the same result in Pennsylvania and Texas and we confidently hope, in several other States where bills are now pending.

On the fourth of April, a jury of the voters of the State of Michigan will give their verdict in the case of the "Home against the Saloon."

Already extensive preparations are being made by the traffic to bring everything possible to bear at that point. The friends of the Home are equally active. Speakers are offering their services and the territory is being arranged for a vigorous campaign.

Of the thousands of members of the W. C. T. U., all over this land but few, comparatively, can go to the front, but every one can "lend a hand" by her prayers and has already done so in her own home; but we need to *unite these prayers.*

We therefore ask every local Union wherever situated, to observe *Tuesday*, the *twenty ninth* of March, from the hour of *ten a. m.* to *four p. m.* as a day of special prayer for our cause in the State of Michigan and may every member of our Unions be found in her place on that day.

Let the hour and place of meeting be thoroughly advertised, and a special invitation given to every man, woman and child, who is a lover of Home to come upon that day to the help of the Lord against the mighty.

Yours in a steadfast faith and a blessed hope of success.

FRANCES E. WILLARD,
President.

CAROLINE B. BURLL,
Cor. Sec. Nat'l. W. C. T. U.
Headquarters,
Feb. 28th 1887.

We invite your earnest attention to the foregoing letter from National Headquarters. And earnestly request each local Union to observe March 29 as a day of prayer for the success of the temperance cause in those States which are trying to drive the saloon from their borders.

Let the White Ribbon women of our State unite their prayers with the sisterhood of this great country that in these States the home may have the victory and that Michigan may free herself from the curse of rum on the fourth of April.

If all the hours from ten to four cannot be observed, at least let careful announcement be made for the observance of the last hour from 3 to 4 p. m.

Let all who love the cause assemble and unite in asking for deliverance.

Will you have the call read in your Union and make arrangements for its observance.

MARY C. WOODY,
President.

E. D. HUNDLEY,
Cor. Sec.

Many of our local Unions have been full of good works this winter. The Union in a certain enterprising, manufacturing town frequently plans an entertainment on Saturday night to which the employees especially are invited. They come many of them bringing their wives with them and give signs of satisfaction and delight with the evenings entertainment. White Ribbon sisters! this is a pointer. When we remember that the laboring men receive their wages on Saturday night and generally cannot rest until they have spent a part of their weeks earnings, the saloon men receiving a large share, because they plan entertainments for these tired workmen. You will confer a blessing upon a multitude of homes by planning in such a manner as to outwit the saloon-keeper, who almost invariably spreads his net close to the manufactories and expects a large haul on Saturday night.

The ladies of Durham have organized a W. C. T. Union with 20 members

STATE PROHIBITION PLATFORM.

Greensboro, Dec. 10, 1885.

Whereas: The traffic in alcoholic liquors has grown and is growing out of all ratio to the increase of population in this country; and,

Whereas, said traffic unjustly burdens every legitimate industry, imposes grievious taxation upon honest labor, curses social life, begets crime, breeds pauperism, antagonizes the church, corrupts politics, nullifies law, is a menace to good government and a peril to State: and,

Whereas, The policy of licensing said traffic has proved a policy of perpetuation instead of suppression, with the perpetuity of all its alarming conditions and results; and,

Whereas, We believe license not only non-restrictive in fact, but immoral in principle, debasing in practice, criminal in effect, and an unworthy national law; and that such prohibition, to be effective, must be bedded in the organic foundation of nation and state, and be secured through and be guaranteed by a politic party,

Resolved That as all secondary matters are treated by political parties from the standpoint of expediency: as with the two old parties of our former affiliation this question of the liquor traffic is and must remian secondary; and as we can no longer support either of these old parties, in North Carolina and the nation, without endorsing saloon influences encouraging the power of the saloon in politics and aiding to perpetuate that power; we do hereby declare the imperative necessity for a new party with prohibition of the traffic its prime object; we urge and will labor to secure its prompt and thorough organization everywhere, and for it we invite the votes of all who cast ballots, and the sympathy of all others.

Resolved, That, with the liquor traffic costing over two thousand million dollars annually for liquors bought and drunk, for crime and pauperism growing out of their consumption, for judiciary and constabulary and penal and charitable institutions, made necessary by such crime and pauperism, for unproductive life resulting from it, for unproductive labor involved in it and the enormous waste inevitable under it; with political corruption its legitimate child, public abueses its natural brood, profitable production discounted because of it, helpful consumption limited, the equitable distribution of wealth and the equitable adjustment of public burdens made impossible, and every material and moral interest enforced by its organized selfishness; the issue of its prohibition, already fixed in politics by the repeated action of the liquor dealers themselves, more closely involve the welfare of all the people and is of far greater concern to state and nation, than any other or all other issues now politically recognized and that as such it deserves and for it we may justly claim the acceptance of every candid citizen.

Resolved, That we deem unwise and unpatriotic the course of any man or party, or any locality or State, which denies the vital relationship of Prohibition to our nation at large, and which proclaims it a local issue only, to be settled by each locality or state in its own way; that as the national government alone can prohibit importation and inter-state transportation, has full jurisdiction over each territory and the District of Columbia and claims a share in the profits of every liquor-seller in the Union, we reiterate our demand for national sovereignty over the liquor traffic to supress it, instead of to legalize, to protect and to perpetuate it.

Resolved, That we recognize in such demand the new national issue needed in our politics, to overcome sectional bitterness, to unite Northern and Southern patriotic sentiment and to promote those conditions of political amenity essential to national peace and perpetuity.

Resolved, That, with confidence in the justice of our cause, with faith in God and prayer for divine guidance, we will go forward from this day, embodying Prohibition in our ballot-box, as everywhere, in favor of sobriety and economy in government of exalting citizenship, and the noble upbuilding of the State.

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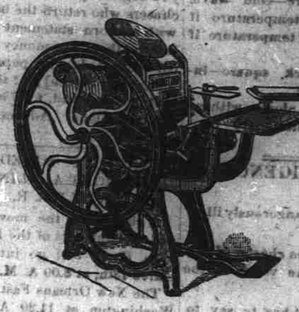

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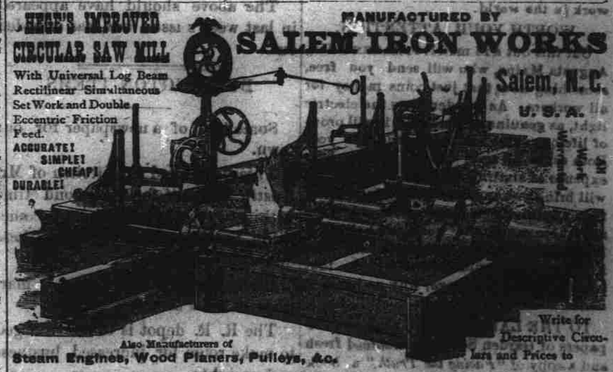

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