

TEMPERANCE ESSAYS.

NO DOMINION PRIZE THIS YEAR.

(1) "That the District Unions which do not already offer to the children in our public schools prizes for essays on temperance subjects be urged to do so, and secure the co-operation of their auxiliary unions in order to extend the competition to the country schools; (2) that instead of offering the prizes to individual schools, the schools to compete as a whole, greater honour being thus won by the successful competitors; (3) that with a view to giving the competitions the importance they deserve, the New Zealand Union offer a gold medal and silver medals for the best essays from the whole of the primary schools of the Dominion."

The above resolution was passed at Convention, and details left to the Executive to carry out. A matter embracing the whole Dominion wants to be well organised, and the Executive has decided that it is too late in the year to organise a scheme such as this. Will all members and officers kindly note that the N.Z. Union will not offer prizes this year, but intend to have the scheme well organised for next year, and to carry out the wishes of Convention by offering medals, to be competed for by school children all over the Dominion.

In the meantime the Executive hopes that all Unions who have been in the habit of offering prizes for temperance essays will do so this year as usual, and that Unions who have never offered prizes before will endeavour to do so this year, in preparation for the Dominion scheme for next year.

HOT LAKES ON NEW ZEALAND

**Brent's
BATHGATE HOUSE,
ROTORUA.**

Being a FIRST-CLASS TEMPERANCE HOTEL, is replete with every comfort. It is adjacent to the Sanatorium, and thus affords special facilities for the Baths.

Terms Moderate S. T. BRENT, Proprietor.

FRANCES E. WILLARD.

Statuary Hall, Washington, February 17, 1905.

(By Katharine Lent Stevenson.)

How still she stands!
The snow-peak kissed by morning's glad first-beam,
The violet, bending to the woodland stream,
The hush of twilight grey, before dawn's gleam,
Are not more still.

How calm she stands!
Like ocean's voiceless peace, the waves below,
Like winter's quiet, 'neath its depth of snow,
Like the still heart of earth where all things grow,
Is her great calm.

How great she stands!
A mountain-peak her soul; an ocean wide;
A river, sweeping on with full, free tide;
A sacred shrine where holiest things abide;
How great she stands!

How loved she stands!
Unnumbered souls their costliest incense bring;
O'er all the world her name doth heart-bells ring;
Love-notes to her e'en little children sing;
How loved she stands!

A Queen she stands!
In her our woman-heart hath found its throne;
Through her our kinship with all good is shown;
Her white life makes our royal birth-right known;—
Our Queen she stands!

A Seer she stands!
To her clear eyes Truth's radiant sweep unfolds;
She reads what, down the years, the future holds;
She sees things heavenly 'neath their earthly mould;
A Seer she stands!

A Knight she stands!
A maiden-knight, whom fear could not assail,
Whose eyes flinched not, whose great heart did not fail;
Who sought, and found, e'en here, the Holy Grail:—
Our Knight she stands!

Stand, radiant soul!
Here, in the centre of our Nation's heart;
Forever of its best life thou'st a part;
Here thou shalt draw thy land to what thou art;
Stand, radiant soul!

Stand, conquering one!
Swift down the years already leaps the morn
Of holiest triumph, for which thou wert born;
"Sought out" our land shall be "no more forlorn,"
Since thou dost stand!

PROHIBITION IN U.S.A.

MRS FITCH SPEAKS HIGHLY OF IT.

Mrs Fitch, of New York, with her father, Mr Francis, is visiting this Dominion. Mrs Fitch is an Attorney-at-Law, and is appointed by the Education Department of the U.S.A. Government to report on Education matters in the countries visited. Interviewed by our reporter, she gave no uncertain sound on prohibition, but spoke of its success.

Already Savings Bank deposits had nearly doubled. The efficiency of the workman was much increased, and there were less accidents at factories and workshops. There was no increase in illicit distilling.

Mrs Fitch explained that when an amendment was made to the Constitution, very little notice was taken of it until the people saw if it was going to be enforced. It was quite correct that liquor could be obtained after Prohibition came in force, but after about six months the Supreme Court decisions began to come to hand. Such substantial fines were inflicted that it meant financial ruin. Now those who want liquor find great difficulty in getting it.

FROM FAR-OFF JOHN-O'-GROAT.

A member of one of our Unions sends us a copy of "John-o'-Groat Journal," announcing the fact that Wick has gone dry. Wick is her native town in Scotland, and she is very delighted that it has voted straight. Seventy-seven per cent. of the electors on the roll recorded their votes, and No-License won by a majority of 587.

We share in the joy of our sister that her native town is dry, and hope ere long the country of her adoption will also be dry.

The "White Ribbon" can be ordered from Mrs Peryman, Carterton, Subscription, 3/6 per annum, post free.