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A Partial History of the Woman's Christian Temperance Crusade of Bangor, Maine

Woman's Christian Temperance Crusade

L. B. Wheelden

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"IT IS THE WILL OF GOD."

CAGE



DO NOT
CIRCULATE



MRS. C. V. CROSSMAN.

1874—1897

A PARTIAL HISTORY

—OF—

THE WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN
TEMPERANCE CRUSADE

—OF—

BANGOR, MAINE.



ARRANGED BY

MRS. L. B. WHEELDEN, SEC'Y

W. C. T. C.



PREFACE.

WHEN first asked to write a record of the work of the Crusade during the twenty-two years of its existence, it seemed almost an impossibility, as I had only been connected with the organization for a few years and felt myself utterly incompetent to attempt it; but through the kindness of the older members, especially the officers who had been connected with it from its first meeting, and the very excellent annual reports of former Secretaries, I trust that I have been enabled to give to my readers a partial idea of the work accomplished by the temperance workers of our city and also of some of the obstacles encountered during that work. May the time speedily come when temperance will hold its proper place in the minds of all citizens having the good of the common wealth at heart, and when our fair city shall no longer be disgraced by over two hundred open rum shops, a stumbling block indeed to our fathers, husbands and sons.

HISTORY OF TWENTY YEARS' WORK

—OF THE—

WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE CRUSADE.

IN beginning a history of our work it is perhaps necessary to touch upon some of the causes which led to the formation of the Woman's Temperance Crusade in Bangor.

On the 22nd of December, 1873, Dr. Dio Lewis of Boston lectured on Temperance in Hillsboro, Ohio, and argued that the ladies of the country could successfully carry on the work of temperance reform, if they would set about it in the right manner, going to the saloon keeper in the spirit of Christian love and persuading him for the sake of humanity, and his own eternal welfare, to quit the hateful, soul-destroying business.

As all know, temperance was not popular, temperance societies were battling almost without hope against fearful odds, and the plan of Dr. Lewis came almost like a flash of heavenly light to the women of Hillsboro, where the traffic prevailed to an alarming extent, and immediately scores of good women took the matter up. A meeting was

held Wednesday morning, December 24th, and the first Woman's Temperance Crusade, was then and there organized, led by Mrs. Eliza J. Thompson as President.

Of course such a movement was soon heralded all over the country, great enthusiasm was aroused among all lovers of temperance work, and Mrs. C. V. Crossman, long a temperance worker in our own town, after thinking the matter over for a long time, resolved to see if something could not be done in Bangor, where the same heart-breaking needs, the same appalling dangers, and the same impotence of human strength alone for the deliverance of our people, existed.

A temperance society, called the Temple of Honor, had been holding public temperance meetings on Sunday afternoons at Temperance Hall and in the early part of March, 1874, at one of these meetings a call was given for the ladies of Bangor and friends of temperance to meet in Temperance Hall the next Wednesday afternoon. Pursuant to this call, a few ladies met in Temperance Hall on the afternoon of March 5th, to discuss the propriety of forming a "Praying Band" for the purpose of suppressing the evils of intemperance. Several ministers and other gentlemen were present and united in the prayers and remarks, and at a second meeting, held March 12th, it was voted to call a public Fast and Prayer Meeting at City Hall the following Wednesday.

Subject to this call a large number filled the hall both forenoon and afternoon and so encouraged even the movers in the enterprise that at the close of the Fast a business meeting was appointed to meet at Temperance Hall on Thursday afternoon, March 19th. This meeting took place as announced, and was opened by singing "God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform" and repeating by all present of the Lord's prayer.

The following officers were then elected:

President, Mrs. C. V. Crossman.

Secretary, Mrs. Benj. Plummer.

Treasurer, Mrs. M. Willey.

Vice Presidents.

Mrs. Walter Brown,

Mrs. H. E. Prentiss,

Third Parish.

Unitarian.

Mrs. R. S. Prescott,	Episcopal.
Mrs. Arthur Given,	Freewill Baptist.
Mrs. Newell Blake,	Spiritualist.
Mrs. Mary E. Coe,	Hammond Street.
Mrs. James Crosby,	First Parish.
Mrs. G. R. Palmer,	First Methodist.
Mrs. J. C. White,	Second Baptist.
Mrs. L. J. Morse,	First Baptist.
Mrs. Robert Davis,	Universalist.
Mrs. H. G. Berry,	Second Methodist.
Mrs. M. G. Taylor,	Adventist.

Executive Committee was chosen at the next meeting consisting of the following ladies :

Mrs. James Clark,	Mrs. J. T. Blethen,
Mrs. Jonathan Lane,	Mrs. D. H. Durham,
Mrs. John Works,	Mrs. Albert Dole,
Mrs. H. E. Prentiss,	Mrs. J. S. Wheelwright,
Mrs. O. B. Plummer,	Mrs. M. P. C. Withers,
Mrs. Benj. Plummer,	Mrs. I. S. Johnson,
Mrs. Peter Cushing,	Mrs. H. S. Berry,
Mrs. C. V. Crossman,	Mrs. E. Hassard,
Mrs. W. T. Hunter,	Mrs. Minnie Cook,
Mrs. Benj. Jones,	Mrs. F. M. Sabine,
Mrs. Emery Sabine,	Mrs. Geo. Savary,
Mrs. G. W. Merrill,	Mrs. J. M. Titcomb,
Mrs. Amos Pickard,	Mrs. Luther Cutter,
Mrs. S. S. Doughty,	Mrs. E. Clark,
Mrs. H. A. Gibson,	Mrs. Phillips,

Mrs. F. Whittier.

At this meeting the President reported the first gift, a check of fifty dollars, from David Bugbee, Esq., for the purpose of aiding the Crusade; also five dollars from Silas D. Jones, Esq., and the loan of horse and carriage from G. W. Spratt for the use of the ladies in their work. A vote of thanks was extended these gentlemen. It was then

voted unanimously that all the officers go before the Mayor and Aldermen with the following petition :

BANGOR, March 25th, 1874.

To the Hon. Newell Blake, Mayor of Bangor, Aldermen and City Councilmen :

GENTLEMEN :—We, the undersigned, women of Bangor, do most respectfully petition you to have the Laws of the State prohibiting the sale of intoxicating drinks enforced in this city ; and that the sale of liquors at the City Agency shall be confined to the purposes for which that agency was established.

Signed,

Mrs. C. V. Crossman,

“ Walter Brown,

“ R. S. Prescott,

“ D. M. Dunham,

“ Peter Cushing,

“ H. S. Berry,

“ J. M. Flanders,

“ James Mayville,

“ James Clark,

“ C. O. Banks,

“ W. Willey,

“ Sarah Ham,

“ Mary P. Hanscomb,

“ Emma H. Pierce,

“ S. P. Hutchinson,

“ Mary W. Mitchell,

“ Jane Maddocks,

“ J. M. Leonard,

“ Caroline Cutter,

Miss Lizzie Eastman,

Mrs. J. A. Leathers,

“ D. F. Howard,

“ P. M. De Latours,

“ S. S. Low,

“ F. Grover,

“ S. A. Ames,

“ M. G. Low,

“ S. M. Snow,

Mrs. Benj. Plummer,

“ H. E. Prentiss,

“ John Works,

“ M. P. C. Withers,

“ M. J. Hill,

“ Solin Goldthwait,

“ A. O. Stewart,

“ Margaret W. Carlisle,

“ Mary M. Chapman,

“ Jenette C. Fish,

“ F. S. Chatterton,

“ H. J. Pottle,

“ J. C. Lane,

“ A. E. Harris,

“ A. M. Curtis,

“ Helen A. Gibson,

“ Minnie S. C. Cook,

“ E. A. Duren,

“ Jane B. Moody,

“ W. B. Heath,

“ Mary E. Roundy,

“ Mary A. Call,

“ Melinda Waldron,

Miss Isa Prince,

Mrs. S. L. Hunter,

“ Carrie Oakes,

“ B. F. Jones,

“ S. S. Crosby,

Mrs. L. M. Hunt,
 " Annie L. Goldthwait,
 " August Row,
 " Bertie Nicholson,
 " Bertie Hillman,
 " William Thompson,
 " Louisa N. Patterson,

Miss Jane Smith,

Mrs. N. W. Haynes,
 " B. F. Teft,
 " A. B. Plummer,
 " Randlette,
 " O. M. Dickey,
 " E. D. Ford,
 " A. Pitcher,
 " Elizabeth Nickerson,
 " Roby Ireland,
 " Edwin Clark,
 " Ellen M. Cushman,
 " George Savary,
 " E. C. Wallace,
 " Moses L. Appleton,
 " E. Hassard,
 " Mary D. Stoddard,
 " Spencer Hills,
 " S. E. Benson,
 " S. B. Emery,
 " William Phillips,
 " Barker Emery,
 " Eliza A. Buzzell,
 " Almond Butters,
 " Lewis Barker,
 " Dr. Morrison,
 " H. S. Snow,
 " J. H. Head.

Mrs. G. R. Palmer,
 " J. D. Blethen,
 " Matilda J. Peasley,
 " Geo. C. Boynton,
 " J. M. Titcomb,
 " Charles Dunning,
 " Hannah Allen,
 " Carrie S. Peaks,
 " Sophia G. Stackpole,
 " S. W. Thayer,

Miss Annie B. Robinson,

Mrs. John S. Kimball,
 " Charles A. Nealley,
 " Charles B. Brown,
 " L. J. Morse,
 " Abram Moore,
 " James I. Johnson,
 " F. Whittier,
 " T. B. Chalmers,
 " S. T. Chase,
 " G. H. Chick,
 " Sarah L. Lane,
 " A. M. Long,
 " Jane Ellison,
 " B. E. Randall,
 " F. B. Whittier,
 " D. Beane,
 " Pickard,
 " Sumner Basford,
 " F. S. Palmer,
 " C. Quimby,
 " Mary H. Tibbets,
 " G. H. Soule,
 " N. L. Perkins,
 " Sarah P. Doughty,

Mrs. C. W. Whitney.

The following Platform and Resolutions were then adopted :

PLATFORM.

The undersigned, women of Bangor, appalled by the magnitude of the evil of intemperance in our midst, and believing that the trade of

rum-selling is wholly superfluous, corrupt, and corrupting alike to the seller and the buyer, do therefore associate ourselves together for Christian labor in the work of suppressing a traffic no longer wanted and whose utter extinction we believe to be desired by every good citizen.

Conscious of our weakness, and of the strength of the foe, yet believing that the signal pressure of the hour and the finger of God's Providence render the step *our inalienable duty*, we shrink not, appealing directly for discretion, guidance and success, to the Almighty Father of his suffering children, Who choseth the weak things of this world to confound the mighty.

Resolved, That this organization shall be known as the "Woman's Crusade against the sale of intoxicating beverages."

2nd. *Resolved*, That the City Agency for the sale of liquors for medicinal and mechanical purposes should be conducted so that the liquor shall be sold for those purposes only, and no other; or be abolished, and some other mode adopted, that the end for which the agency was established may be secured.

3rd. *Resolved*, That we will ever pray to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe to move the hearts of the men who compose the City Government to enforce to the letter the laws of the State governing the sale of spiritous and malt liquors.

4th. *Resolved*, That should our petition to the City Government prove futile, and the sale of liquors be allowed to continue to the ruin of our fathers, husbands and sons, we will exercise the God-given right of prayer and united supplication.

5th. *Resolved*, That as every drop of liquor thus sold in the State of Maine is in the violation of the laws of the State and whereas our noble sisters in the West are not only battling against the lucrative business of rum-selling, but also against a law that permits the sale of the same, known as the License Law, we, women of Maine, with Law, Justice, and Right on our side, and with the assurance of Almighty God that if we band ourselves together in His Name, He will grant our request, therefore

Resolved, That we will, morning, noon and night call upon the Benificent Dispenser of Love and Mercy to hear our united prayers, that our fathers, husbands and sons may not be led into temptation and that our prayers may melt the hearts of those who have just been elected to manage the affairs of this city, for the good of all its inhabitants.

Signed by all the petitioners.

Encouraged by the manifest sympathy of the community in the labors of the Crusade a call was made by the management for a public mass meeting at City Hall for Saturday evening, March 28th, which was largely attended. Prayers and spirited remarks, interspersed by singing by the audience made glad the hearts of the friends of temperance and the enthusiasm culminated in a rising vote of the assembly that a Mass Prayer Meeting be held at Norombega Hall on the following evening, Sunday, March 29th. Accordingly a meeting was held the next evening at Norombega under the auspices of the Ladies' Crusade which was attended by all classes of citizens, who manifested the deepest interest and public sentiment became more thoroughly aroused than for a long time, if ever, in the past. Several ladies, wholly unaccustomed to speaking in public, threw aside the reserve of a lifetime, and warmly presented the cause of temperance. Prominent clergymen and citizens of standing also united in speaking and praying, while Mrs. Crowell and Mrs. Lawrence nobly lent the melody of their rich voices to swell the interest of the occasion. We felt, as an organization, that we had abundant reason to "thank God and take courage."

In the meantime the ladies had not been idle. An afternoon of each week was appointed for business and consultation, followed by a prayer meeting, held in the beginning at Temperance Hall, then at City Hall and during the winter of '74, through the courtesy of the officers of the First Baptist Society, at the chapel connected with their church. Public prayer meetings were held every Wednesday afternoon and mass meetings every Thursday and Saturday evenings at City Hall. Committees were also appointed for different parts of the work, the city was divided into sections, each section being apportioned to certain of the ladies, who carrying the following

PLEDGE.

We, the undersigned, for our own good and the good of all the world in which we live do hereby promise by the help of Almighty God, to abstain from buying, selling, or using alcoholic or malt beverages, visited all stores, shops, printing offices, and all places where signers could be obtained, and hundreds of the leading citizens signed these

pledges. This pledge was also presented to the Mayor, Aldermen Councilmen, City Marshall and Policemen.

The following Constitution was adopted and with some amendments is still in use :

PREAMBLE.

Feeling the greatness of the evils of intemperance, and seeing the urgent need of united effort against it, we hereby associate ourselves together as workers, striving with the help of God to remove temptation from the path of the weak; to lift the fallen and bring back the erring; to strengthen the hands of all who labor in the cause of temperance, to lead the ignorant in the better way; and to help our fellow-men to a healthier and higher life by whatever means may be opened before us. Therefore we unite ourselves under the following

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1.—This organization shall be called "The Woman's Christian Temperance Crusade of Bangor."

ART. 2.—We do hereby promise and engage with the help of Almighty God, to abstain from buying, selling, using or causing others to use alcoholic or malt beverages, wine and cider included.

ART. 3.—Any woman to become a member of the Crusade must be twenty years of age or more, and elected by ballot. The name must be presented one week previous to election, and if elected, she must sign the total abstinence pledge and by-laws, and pay the yearly dues.

SECTION 1.—In balloting for candidates three negatives shall reject.

ART. 4.—The officers of the Crusade shall be: 1st, a President; 2nd, a Secretary; 3rd, a Treasurer; 4th, a Vice-President, from each religious society in this city which wishes such representation; 5th, an Executive Committee consisting of twenty-three members (afterwards thirteen) besides the President and Secretary who shall be ex-officio members of the committee, and such other officers as shall be found necessary.

ART. 5.—The President shall preside at meetings and at the sessions of the executive committee and shall have a deciding vote in case of a tie in the votes of the committee. The Secretary shall have charge of the records of the Crusade and shall perform the usual duties of a Secretary and shall make an annual report of the doings of the Crusade. The Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Crusade and all accounts connected therewith, and shall make an annual report of the receipts and expenditures. The Vice-President shall assist the President in presiding at public meetings and shall furnish a presiding officer in case of her absence. The Executive Committee shall arrange

the meetings and have charge of the public work of the Crusade, conducting their business in harmony with the Constitution and with the code of by-laws hereafter to be adopted.

ART. 6.—The Constitution may be altered or amended by vote of two-thirds of the members voting at any meeting regularly called for that purpose. Adopted May 27, 1874.

ART. 7.—(Added June 23rd, 1875.) Any member may be expelled by a majority vote of the Crusade after sufficient cause for expulsion has been proved to exist.

ART. 8.—Any member may withdraw from the Crusade by giving notice of a wish to do so through the Secretary. The by-laws provided for the election of officers, filling vacancies in case of resignation or other cause, and calling of regular and special meetings of the Crusade and Executive Committee by the President. Also in regard to balloting our candidates and cause for expulsion and amendments to the constitution.

AMENDMENT TO ART. 3.

No woman can become a member of the Crusade who is already a member of any local organization that is auxilliary to the State and National Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

AMENDMENT TO ART. 4.

The officers of this Crusade shall be: 1st, a President; 2nd, Secretary; 3rd, Treasurer; 4th, Vice-President from each church; 5th, Chaplain, and Assistant Chaplain; 6th, Executive or Business Committee.

As the work progressed and enlarged, other committees were formed and appointed by the President, consisting of Finance and Investigating Committees, Relief Committee, Committee on Juvenile Work, on Reform Work, on Legal Work, on Prison and Jail Work and on Music.

Next in order of time the hotel, apothecary establishments, and saloons of the city were visited by members of the Crusade with earnest, affectionate and respectful remonstrance against liquor selling and urgent appeals to those engaged therein to desist for the sake of humanity and right. Hopeful symptoms appeared, and great results were for a time anticipated, but with few exceptions the seller of intoxicants has withstood all persuasions to relinquish his business until compelled by force of law or lack of patronage.

On April 4th, 9th and 11th, public meetings were held at City Hall, which was filled to overflowing each evening. These meetings, how-

ever, proved but the advance guard to the army that filled Norombega Hall on the evening of Monday, April 13th, when a most enthusiastic audience had the pleasure of listening to the Hon. Sidney Perham, Ex-Governor of the State, Albert W. Paine and Lewis Barker, Esq., who spoke to the point on the important question of the day. A telegram was received during the meeting, from Governor Dingley, regretting his unavoidable absence. Mr. Barker in closing, offered the following:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting, that the law of the State prohibiting the sale of intoxicants be enforced in this city.

The resolution was carried by the rising of the audience "en masse." The addresses were interspersed by Mrs. Lawrence, Mrs. Crowell and a choir of young ladies who sang two original pieces written for the occasion, and the Lawyers' Meeting closed by singing "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow" by thousands of friends of the Woman's Crusade. As usual at all of these meetings the Pledge was presented and received many signatures. "God's Truth is marching on."

Thursday, April 16th, having been appointed by the Governor of the State as a day to be observed for humiliation, fasting and prayer, it seemed eminently fitting that united prayers should be offered that the wave of intemperance which is sweeping over our beloved country might be stayed. Meetings were accordingly held at City Hall afternoon and evening which were fully attended. During the evening meeting the President acknowledged the receipt of twenty-five dollars each from Lewis Barker and Col. James Dunning for the good of the cause.

Another most interesting meeting was held at City Hall on Saturday, April 18th, at which remarks of special interest were made by Professor Levy of Boston, Col. Scott of New York, and Messrs. Barker, Dunning, Plummer and others of our own city. Mr. Henry Hill in a few concise words, introduced a proposition from the young men of Bangor to form a Young Men's Crusade Club, auxillary to the Woman's Crusade if agreeable to them. This was gladly accepted, and the first Bangor Reform Club was organized which proved in many ways a great help to the ladies in their work; and from this parent club, in the

next four years, sprang two hundred and forty similar clubs, each having the same motto, "Non-political, non-sectarian; with malice toward none, charity for all and dare to do right," with a membership of thirty thousand, all of whom had been drinking men to a greater or less extent.

Dr. Henry A. Reynolds, the first President of the Bangor Reform Club, remained with the Club for a year or more, doing yeoman service and giving all his time to advance its interests and persuading men to give up their cups. He then went to Massachusetts, and from there to Michigan, devoting his whole time to the cause he loved so well, and so ably did he do his work, that in Massachusetts, wherever he went, he was received by the men he had induced to sign the pledge and their families with perfect ovations. In Michigan he did so much good that its Legislature passed a resolve, which was approved by the Governor, acknowledging and thanking him for the good he had done for its people. He is still in Michigan, and still in active work for temperance, more enthusiastic even than at first, if that were possible.

At a business meeting held April 23rd, it was voted to have a grand mass meeting at Norombega Hall on Saturday, April 25th, and the hall was filled to overflowing, the occasion being of much interest, as it had been previously announced that this would be a "Merchant's Meeting." Addresses were made by Hon. J. S. Wheelwright, Wm. P. Hubbard, Col. James Dunning, Hon. Joab W. Palmer, Messrs. J. W. Crosby, Samuel Prentiss, Sidney Thaxter, Isaiah Stetson, S. D. Thurston and Mrs. H. E. Prentiss.

During all the time since its first organization prayer meetings were held at the jail and City Farm, and although during the hottest of the summer months the ladies were scattered and the work was to some extent suspended, nothing was abandoned, and in the autumn this band of workers began to move vigorously upon the haunts of the enemy. Visits to the jail which had been only occasional through the summer, now became weekly. With the law of kindness on their lips, these missionaries of temperance were able to persuade many of its inmates to forsake their cruel enemy, alcohol, to sign the pledge, and

thus when their term of incarceration had expired, to step forth to a more hopeful future.

That these visits were appreciated by the prisoners scores of letters like the following can testify but I will only give portions of two as specimens.

PORTLAND, Jan. 20th, '76.

MRS. CROSSMAN.

MADAM:—In October of last year you came to me as one sent from Heaven, your appearance to me was on that particular occasion the greatest blessing that God would have bestowed upon me. I was fallen and the good God sent you as His instrument on earth to lift me up out of the degraded life I was leading. O, how happily I feel by being what I am, and I thank God that He in His great mercy sent you to me and pointed out the road that I should travel and which I with the grace of Almighty God have travelled ever since and with His grace and your prayers I intend to travel in the future. Now, dear Madam, I hope you will ask the prayers of your sisters that I may always walk strong in the ways of sobriety, and God grant that you may be instrumental in saving hundreds of men as you have saved me. I have not forgotten the kind sisters Whittier and Fellows who took me by the hand and gave me a home and work. Now, my dear sisters and brothers, pray for me that I may have strength to walk as I have been and God bless you all, is the prayer of your brother.

316 WATER STREET, NEW YORK, }
Sept. 24, 1879. }

MRS. CROSSMAN, BANGOR, MAINE.

DEAR MADAM:—According to promise I drop you a few lines to thank you again for your kindness and the interest you took in me as a stranger when in your city, for had it not been for your indomitable perseverance I cannot tell how ever I would have got here unless I had walked, which I was not able to do. Since I arrived in New York I have had some hard times and have been tried severely but I have put my trust in my best friend, the Lord Jesus, have made a full and complete surrender of my heart to Him about three weeks ago and since that time have enjoyed that peace which a Christian only knows. Pray for me that I may ever keep faithful. You will also be pleased to know that I have got my position back which I lost through drink, something which I never expected, but I prayed for it earnestly and surely the Lord heard and answered my prayer. I have begun work to-day and as soon as I am able will return the money advanced for my pas-



MRS. H. E. PRENTISS.

sage on the boat to Boston. Wishing you God speed in your noble work and may you be the means of saving many from a drunkard's grave, I remain, yours very respectfully.

Another enterprise requiring both physical and moral courage was entered into at the beginning of the cold season. After obtaining permission at the proper source, these devoted women left their warm firesides, and every morning visited the Police Station, carrying hot coffee to refresh the inmates and the pledge for all who would wish to sign. The unaccustomed tone of sympathy penetrating the atmosphere of their dismal place of shelter, awoke a latent chord of hope in breasts long crushed by disappointment and hardened by sin. Persuasions to a better life from those manifesting such tangible interest in their welfare, proved successful beyond expectation. The efforts of the ladies at this post were kindly seconded by the Marshal and his force, who further evinced their confidence and sympathy by presenting themselves in a body and signing our pledge.

The winter of 1874 was a severe one, business was dull and many industrious persons were out of employment. Many of the reformed men were of this number. With nothing to do and with no prospect of speedy employment, time hung heavy on their hands, placing them greatly at the mercy of the enemy, entrenched in many strongholds in the streets of our city. Our President therefore felt, and her feeling was shared by the officers and members of the Crusade, as well as the leaders of the Reform Club, that some measure must be adopted for their instruction and entertainment during the leisure hours of these men, who were desperately struggling for full emancipation. A committee of three ladies was chosen to solicit subscriptions from the citizens and to lease and fit up suitable rooms for the object in view. Mrs. Crossman, Mrs. Prentiss, and Miss. Crosby accepted the trust and entered upon the work. The rooms Nos. 8 and 10 Franklin street, formerly a part of Murray's restaurant, were leased from Mr. Thatcher, and furniture and reading matter gathered in them rapidly. The smaller room was devoted to quiet games, principally checkers, and smoking was permitted there, while the larger one was set apart as

the literary quarter. The first gifts received were stoves from Wood & Bishop and Albert Noyes and a ton of coal from Bacon & Huckins. So soon as the first tables and chairs were received from G. W. Merrill and the first three armfuls of books from Col. Dunning, the Club began to use them. To those doubting and cautious ones who hesitated to give to us lest the reformed men should care nothing for such entertainment, we had but to say "Go and see."

Neither time nor your patience will allow us to enumerate all the gifts received, or of the approving words spoken to those who solicited. Suffice it to say that about three hundred dollars in money and four hundred dollars worth of furniture and books were contributed during the month of December. A board of trustees consisting of Mrs. Crossman, Mrs. Prentiss and Miss Crosby of the Crusade and Dr. H. A. Reynolds, Henry Hill and James Barnaby of the Reform Club were chosen as a Board of Management of the Reading Rooms. This board held their first meeting at Dr. Reynold's office, December 19, organized by the choice of Mrs. Crossman, President, and Henry Hill, Secretary, planned to raise a fund for the current expenses of the institution by the sale of subscription tickets to the citizens, drew up rules for the conduct of the rooms and arranged for their formal opening and dedication.

Accordingly on December 23, a formal letter of invitation in the name of the Crusade was sent to President Reynolds of the Reform Club, asking them to receive a Christmas present of the use of the rooms for the coming year, at a public meeting to be held at City Hall on Friday, December 25th. The Club accepted the invitation with enthusiasm and at the appointed time marched in a body—nearly two hundred strong—from their headquarters in Temperance Hall; a sight that thrilled our hearts with pride and thankfulness as they entered the meeting and filed into their places on the platform. After reading of the Scriptures by Rev. Dr. Butler, prayer by our Secretary, Mrs. Plummer, and singing a hymn, the formal presentation of the rooms was made in a few well chosen words by our President to the President of the Club. Dr. Reynolds received the same, and deputed the Sec-

retary, Capt. Henry Hill, to return the thanks of the Club, which he did in an able and interesting manner. After singing "Gather at the River," Dr. Tefft delivered an address. The Crusade were then escorted by the Reform Club to the reading rooms on Franklin street, where a dedicatory prayer was made by Rev. Mr. Brown, and remarks by the ladies and general congratulations followed.

Another work inaugurated during the fall of 1874 was a sewing circle, which was held one afternoon of each week, to prepare from the cloth and clothing donated, proper garments for destitute families who had been made so by drink. A relief committee from this circle visited the recipients of this bounty and were ever on the alert to counsel and give tangible comfort. This sewing circle and committee held its meetings in the "Pastor's parlor" of the Central Church, distributing the first winter about three hundred garments and nearly forty dollars in direct relief, and in the purchase of materials for the sewing room. The offer of the same room was tendered us the second winter, but was gratefully declined, the reading room on Franklin street, being a more central place.

Death spared our ranks until the record of the first year was nearly completed, but on February 4th, 1875, Mrs. Luther Cutter, one of our most earnest workers was suddenly called from earth to the Home above, and her loss was deeply felt by all with whom she was associated, both in the Crusade and elsewhere.

As the first year drew to a close the feeling was general that we should, in a public prayer meeting, commemorate the anniversary of the first prayer meeting held by the ladies who afterwards formed the Crusade, and accordingly a prayer-meeting was held at City Hall, March 4th, 1875, and although the day was stormy the hall was well filled and all felt that it was good to have been at the meeting.

The first anniversary of the Woman's Crusade was observed March 25, by meetings at City Hall forenoon and afternoon, and by a grand mass meeting at Norombega Hall in the evening, during which a beautiful gold cross and chain was presented Mrs. Crossman, the President, by Mrs. Lowe in behalf of the Crusade. Short speeches were made by

different clergymen and the meeting closed with an original hymn entitled, "The Battle Hymn of the Reform Club," the audience joining in the chorus to the well known tune of "Marching thro' Georgia." One pleasing feature of the Anniversary exercises was the Treasurer's report, who reported all bills paid for the year and one cent left in the treasury, which was received with great applause, and upon the suggestion of Col. David Bugbee a collection was then taken and forty dollars added to the treasury with which to begin the new year's work.

At the beginning of the second year our weekly business and prayer meetings was held in the chapel of the First Baptist Church, which we had occupied since November 19, 1874, but June 16, 1875, on account of repairs being made at the Chapel, we removed to Temperance Hall, which was opened to us free of expense, but in which we labored under two disadvantages, being difficult of access, and in the daytime so surrounded by noise that it was with difficulty we made our voices audible to each other. August 25, 1875, we removed to the Reform Club Reading Room, which continued to be our home until July 1, 1894.

A public evening meeting was held every week during the winter of 1874-'75, with Mrs. May C. Johnson of Brooklyn, Mrs. L. C. Partington of Portland, Dr. T. S. Lambert of New York, Mr. Eli Johnson of Brooklyn, Mr. J. R. McKelvey of Portland and Luther Benson of Indiana as speakers, together with our own reformed men. In August and September 1875, upon invitation of residents in the neighborhood of the Essex street schoolhouse, two mission meetings were held there, of a most interesting character, by the Crusade assisted by a number of the reformed men. Many signed the pledge and a society was organized there which held regular meetings and exerted a great influence for good. Our President with some others also visited the neighboring towns of Newport and Winterport and were instrumental in organizing the women of those towns into societies to labor for the same good cause.

During the second year the Crusade held four entertainments: A spelling match April 26, which netted \$149.25, the proceeds of which were given to the Reform Club, who acknowledged the same in a well

written letter of thanks from their Secretary; a levee in City Hall, April 29, at which we realized \$182.21; another in Norombega, November 9, which gave us \$288.75; and the fourth in City Hall March 2, 1876, from which we received \$177.32. Our chief expense was the support of the reading room, which from its opening until January 1, 1876, cost us \$782.44, and at that time the Reform Club offered to bear half the expense for the next year, which offer was accepted by the Crusade.

In September, 1875, the Crusade joined the State and National Woman's Christian Temperance Unions, in order to make our association one of the national sisterhood of societies, working for the same end, "the suppression of the drink traffic and drinking custom of our Nation." The aims and spirit of these Unions are so at one with those of our earlier Crusades, that we cannot refuse to join hands with them, and we shall find ourselves inspired with new courage in times of difficulty by the fellowship of so many thousands of devoted Christian women, who are looking towards Maine with prayers unceasing that from their own states the iniquity of license may soon be blotted out and as with us the brand of a criminal stamped by the law upon the great robber.

The officers for the second year were the same as the first year, with the exception of the Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Mary Crosby taking the Secretary's place and Mrs. Savary the Treasurer. Mrs. Savary, however, only served until November, when her removal from the city obliged her to resign and Mrs. Nash was elected in her place and served the remainder of the year. One of our enrolled members was within the year called "up higher," Mrs. J. S. Wheelwright, who though seldom meeting with us, was a faithful and consistent advocate of our cause.

The relief committee and sewing circle continued their work during the second winter, and about three hundred garments, new and old, and \$36.75 were distributed. The citizens responded liberally to our appeal for clothing, and garments of every description, from infant's stockings to men's complete suits, were contributed and many an hour of suffering was doubtless spared to the poor and friendless.

The second anniversary was held Sunday evening, April 2, 1876, at Norombega Hall, and a most attentive audience assembled on that occasion. The President on opening the meeting stated that one great cause for encouragement was in the fact that whereas at the end of the first year we had only one cent in the treasury, we now had one hundred dollars. The principal speakers of the evening were Rev. G. W. Field, Rev. E. W. Preble, Rev. David Boyd and Rev. Mr. Brown, together with several of the Reform Club and ladies of the Crusade.

April 5, 1876, at the election of officers Mrs. S. J. Pickard was elected Secretary, and Mrs. Edwin Clark, Treasurer. The latter, however, only served one year, when Mrs. N. L. Perkins was elected in her place and still serves us in that capacity. Mrs. Pickard held the position of Secretary nearly all the time until her death in the spring of 1894, and to her untiring efforts a great deal of the success of the work is due. Our public meetings were continued through the year at City Hall and the pledge book was always presented and many names were added.

As is frequently the case in charitable work, the ladies were often imposed upon, and they found that some who claimed assistance from them were being helped by several other organizations and were thus being really made more willing to gain their living by begging; and to try and obviate this difficulty a call was issued by Mrs. Crossman for a meeting of the members of all the charitable societies in the city to consider ways and means whereby such trouble could be avoided. Mrs. S. B. Morrison presided at this meeting and its result was the formation of the Associated Charities whose work has been so ably presented by their Secretary, Mrs. F. H. Noble, that further comment here is unnecessary.

The needs of the children of the reformed men pressed very heavily upon the hearts of the Crusade, and various plans were then tried to interest and amuse them as well as to provide them with food and clothing, and in 1884 the ladies determined to give the children a Christmas tree, which was accordingly done, and so great a success was it that it has been continued every year since. At first it was for the

children of the Reform Club wholly, but soon came to include all the poor children who could be reached by the ladies, and now every year from 150 to 200 children are given a good supper and short entertainment with useful gifts and candy, games and books. A committee of ladies from each ward take the lists of names, visit the homes and ascertain the ages, sex and most pressing needs of the children and then report at the business meeting when the presents are bought or solicited in accordance with their report. Underwear, boots and shoes, stockings and mittens are the things most called for, but anything, either clothes or toys are very acceptable. It is interesting to see the joy of some of the little ones as they receive their presents, and it encourages us to continue the work, in the hope that many homes are made less sad by our efforts.

As years rolled on the cause gradually became less popular, members died, left the city or gave up the work, and City Hall was abandoned for the Reading Rooms, where public temperance meetings were held every Friday and Sunday evenings for several years. Then the Friday evening meeting was omitted but until lack of funds and failing interest in the work obliged us to give up our rooms on Franklin street, the Sunday evening meetings were continued under the leadership of Mrs. C. V. Crossman and Mrs. S. J. Pickard.

The enthusiasm over the work of the Crusade has long since died away and only those whose hearts are fully interested in the welfare of those brought down by the demon of intemperance, are left to continue the work and look after the victims; but although our number is small and at times we feel as though the outlook was a sad one, still we do not despair, but try our best to help those who so much need our help. It is not possible either, to do the same *kind* of work now, that was done in the first enthusiasm of the "Crusade" movement, but we do hope that many will bless the name of the Crusade for help in time of dire need, and trusting that God who knows our inmost hearts will accept the work done in the name of Him who came to save the fallen and gave his own life for all.

After occupying our rooms on Franklin street for twenty years at a

heavy expense, we reluctantly came to the conclusion that we could do more good with our money than to continue paying a heavy rent, paying janitors fees and for fuel; the sequel proved we acted wisely. But it was with many regrets that we did so, for our headquarters after so long an occupancy had become endeared to us. It was our home, so much good had been accomplished, so many had signed the pledge and lived and died sober men. No one can tell all the good that was accomplished; the example set by these reformed men undoubtedly saved many of tender age from forming the habit of drinking strong drinks and are today sober and upright men.

Again, among the pledges that hung on the walls of our room, twenty-one were draped in mourning for members who had died, died sober and in their right mind. Again, we missed our Gospel Temperance Meetings that we had held every Sunday evening, summer and winter—no vacation—for the twenty years; we missed our New Year's receptions and social gatherings that brought us together in social intercourse and which helped to strengthen the men to keep their pledges. We can, however, look back for the twenty-three years that we have been a "Crusade" with thankful hearts and praise God that we have been instrumental in saving so many from their cups and leading them in the paths of sobriety and manhood.

Occasionally something occurs to give us fresh courage and this was the case in the summer of 1894. As has already been said we were from necessity obliged to give up our rooms on Franklin street, and for a time we hardly knew what it was best to do. Give up the work we could not, and we did not know where we could get a room in which to meet; but Mayor Beal kindly offered us the use of a room in the new City Hall building free of charge, which we thankfully accepted and have occupied ever since. Our thanks are due Mayor Beal for many favors granted us, especially the free use of City Hall for our Christmas tree. Soon after taking possession of our new quarters, we were informed that Mrs. Priscilla Blake, who has always been interested in temperance and charitable work, wished to show her interest in us by the gift of one thousand dollars, to be invested in reliable

stocks, the interest of which would be used annually to help us in our work. In order to receive this gift, however, we would need to be made an incorporated body, which of course we were only too glad to do, and accordingly on the 27th of October, 1894, a special meeting was held and preliminary steps taken for such incorporation. Our hearty thanks are due Mr. Alanson J. Merrill, who so kindly gave his advice and services, and thereby rendered it possible for us to receive our munificent gift. We have invested the same in railroad stocks and feel as if we were indeed a more influential society than before this substantial remembrance.

During the summer of 1896 we were again remembered by a gift of \$100 in the will of Mrs. S. J. Chadwick, so that we feel that though the cause which we advocate is not a "popular" one in the common acceptance of the term, yet some interest is felt in our work outside of our immediate membership, and every such token of remembrance gives an added impetus to our desire to help the unfortunate.

Our officers who have served us so long and faithfully should not be forgotten in these pages. As I have mentioned before we have had but two Presidents during all these years of service, Mrs. Crossman, who served until 1889, when her ill health obliged her to give up her trust, and Mrs. H. E. Prentiss was elected in her place. Mrs. Prentiss served faithfully till 1894, devoting time and money to the work, but owing to her advanced age she felt herself unable to do active work, and Mrs. Crossman, who had regained somewhat of her former strength, and whose interest in the work had never faltered, was again elected as our leader, and continues to hold that position at present. Mrs. Crossman and Mrs. Prentiss have each represented us at the National Conventions of the W. C. T. U., at Newark, N. J., in 1874, and Mrs. Prentiss at Cincinnati in 1875, and we felt that our cause was ably represented by these ladies. They have been devoted leaders, whose names are known, not only in our own city, but throughout the state.

Our Chaplain, Mrs. S. J. Thayer, now in her 91st year, was one of the first to engage in the Crusade work and by her deeds, as well as by her earnest prayers has been a power among us. For the last few

years she has been unable to attend the meetings regularly on account of age and failing health, but her heart is with us, and on each birthday she is visited by all of our members who can attend, and the occasions are of great interest to all.

Mrs. Wm. Bryant, Mrs. Rachel Davis and Mrs. Randall have also filled the posts of Chaplain or Assistant Chaplain during all the twenty-three years that we have met together, and lately Mrs. Randall has fulfilled the duties of this office alone.

Mrs. N. L. Perkins has been our Treasurer since 1876, and well and faithfully has she managed the fund of the society during her long term of service, having received and expended with careful thought for the best interest of the society, over \$9,000, none of which, however, has been used for the benefit of any of our members. A condensed report of her work for that time is herewith given.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

It may be interesting to some people to know in what manner we raised our money to pay our expenses, as they amounted to quite a good deal yearly. In the first place a number of gentlemen and ladies made liberal donations, and as the need of money was manifested we resorted to various methods to obtain it, such as May day dinners, Fourth of July dinners, entertainments, literary and otherwise, yearly fairs for 21 years, excursions to different points down river, collections in the churches by different individuals, also by a collector at large, Mrs. H. E. Prentiss filling that position for several years, having yearly subscribers by which she was able with her own donations to turn over to the Crusade nearly \$1,000.

The Crusade worked on year after year raising money and expending it for the good of the cause to which they had dedicated themselves while the drink evil, and the poverty and suffering emanating therefrom should remain, and during the twenty-two years of their existence, they have raised and expended over \$9,000. We still labor on and hope that some time we may see the desire of our hearts accomplished. Our present collector is Mrs. J. M. Leonard, who is a very faithful and efficient officer.

Mrs. S. J. Pickard was elected Secretary in 1875, and with the exception of two years, when the illness and death of her husband obliged her to suspend the work, served in that capacity until her death in 1894. Mrs. Sarah Hunt and Miss Payson acted as Secretaries during her absence.

Mrs. L. B. Wheelden was elected Secretary in 1894, and still holds that position with Mrs. Geo. H. Stiles as Assistant Secretary.

Of the original members but few remain, but Miss Mary Hanscomb, Mrs. Rachel Davis, Mrs. Wm. Wallace, Mrs. Nickerson, Mrs. Mary Clark, Mrs. J. M. Leonard, Mrs. G. W. Merrill and Mrs. S. F. Bachel-der are among the most interested of our members and the good that they have accomplished will only be known in the great hereafter.



IN MEMORIAM.

*The world forgets us ere we scarce are fled,
Yet shall our actions long survive us here;
Good deeds work blessings, though their author's dead.*

The following are the names of the members who have died since the Crusade was organized.

Mrs. Luther Cutter,

“ Walter Brown,

“ R. S. Prescott,

“ D. M. Dunham,

“ H. S. Berry,

“ J. M. Flanders,

“ James Mayville,

“ James Clark,

“ Jane Maddocks,

“ D. F. Howard,

“ S. S. Low,

“ F. Grover,

“ T. A. Ames,

“ M. G. Low,

“ S. M. Snow,

“ Mary Chapman,

“ A. E. Harris,

“ Jane B. Moody,

“ W. B. Heath,

“ Mary A. Call,

“ Carrie M. Oakes,

“ Sumner Basford,

“ Sarah P. Doughty,

Mrs. J. S. Wheelwright,

“ G. R. Palmer,

“ B. F. Telft,

“ O. M. Dickey,

“ George Savory,

“ Moses L. Appleton,

Miss Jane Smith,

Mrs. Mary D. Stoddard,

“ S. E. Benson,

“ J. D. Blethen,

“ J. M. Titcomb,

“ Charles Dunning,

“ L. J. Morse,

“ Abram Moore,

“ F. Whittier,

“ A. M. Long,

“ Jane Ellison,

“ F. B. Whittier,

“ Wm. Phillips,

“ Lewis Barker,

“ S. J. Pickard,

“ G. H. Soule,

“ Addie Buzzell.

Miss Anna L. Pitcher.