TEN NO-LICENSE YEARS IN CAMBRIDGE, A JUBILEE VOLUME

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PREFACE.

This volume so far tells its own story that only a few words of introduction are necessary.

The No-license Jubilee of May 1, 1897, which furnished the reason for the volume, was a unique occasion. No other city of the size of Cambridge is able to look back upon a period of ten years without the curse of the open saloon. It seemed fitting that so exceptional an experience, secured through the voluntary activities of her own citizens, should be commemorated by some formal expression of gratitude for the benefits resulting from it. Accordingly the Jubilee which is herein described was planned. The report here given of the various features of the celebration is necessarily inadequate. Except in a few instances it has been impossible to print in full the addresses which were made at the different meetings. These were not carefully prepared orations, but the spontaneous expressions of clergymen and laymen, uttered with no thought of preservation, and necessarily

traversing the same ground. It is hoped that a sufficient account is given of the several meetings to convey an impression of the enthusiasm and spirit of the celebration.

The chapter on the May-day festivals for the school-children of the city indicates but faintly the interest of that feature of the day. The sub-committee having those festivals in charge gave to ten thousand children more or less an occasion which they will long remember both for its pleasure and its instruction. The school-children of Cambridge are growing up without knowing what an open saloon looks like, except as they have seen it outside of Cambridge, and they entered into the celebration with great interest.

A large part of the volume is taken up with a history of the methods, principles, and results of the No-license movement in Cambridge. These chapters, from several different pens, are written in part as a reminder to Cambridge people of the struggles through which they have passed, and still more for the information of outside communities which frequently wish to know just how Cambridge has been won and held for No-license. In this connection, it is a source of gratification to the Committee that, through the energetic exertions of the Cambridge Woman's Christian Temperance Union, arrangements have been made for placing a copy of this book in every public library in Massachusetts.

In the hope that the good example of Cambridge may be widely contagious, and also that the benefits of No-license may be experienced here for many decades to come, the Committee asks the indulgence of the readers of this volume for its shortcomings.

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