

Temperance Column.

By the Ocala Temperance Reform Club.

Edited by J. A. Munden.

The Club meets every Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock in Temperance Hall. The Public are invited.

YESTERDAY'S MEETING.

The meeting of the Ocala Temperance Reform Club at Temperance hall yesterday afternoon was largely attended and proved very interesting and instructive.

After the opening exercises, the speaker of the occasion, Francis Trueblood of Archer, a truly zealous and consecrated temperance worker, was introduced, who made an excellent speech.

Mr. Trueblood said he believed in total abstinence and that he knew not the taste of whisky, and had only tasted cider when he was very young.

He said he belonged to the denomination of Friends (Quakers), and that during an entire year, out of a membership of 18,000 in that church, it had been computed that only seventy-six had used liquor.

He spoke of the great temperance reform throughout the country.

He then dwelt at length upon the recent temperance campaign in Alachua county, in which he had been so actively engaged, endeavoring to get a local option election called. He said Gainesville was slow to engage in the work, but that finally the churches took hold—the Episcopal and Roman Catholic ministers becoming champions in the cause—and many signers to the petition calling for an election were obtained in that city, the colored population helping largely to swell the list.

He had no good word to speak for the registration officer who evaded appearing before the county commissioners with his books, which barred the calling of the election; but was glad to state that the majority of the commissioners were temperance men. He said the petitions for the election were now safely locked up, ready for use next year.

Mr. Trueblood said we needed prohibition in this county, but that perhaps some would object, saying it didn't prohibit. He said it did prohibit—that it did at Archer—and that, anyway, he would rather risk a blind tiger than one with his eyes open, and that if prohibition did not entirely prohibit it was not the only law that did not. He said that if the saloons in New York could be closed one day in the week, the saloons in Ocala could be closed seven days in the week.

He told of his visit to one of the saloons in our city Saturday night and what he saw there.

He closed by reading the form of the petition for an election, which had been circulated in his county.

Mr. Trueblood's speech was received with much applause, after which Misses Grace Gaffney and Mary Bull rendered, with fine effect, a select song.

Esta oficina hace toda clase de trabajo de imprenta en ingles y espanol.

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