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James B. Finley Letters

8-1-1847

Circular -- J.F. Forbus to James B. Finley

J.F. Forbus

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C I R C U L A R .

CINCINNATI, AUGUST, 1847.

BRETHREN—The undersigned beg leave to call your attention to the Juvenile Order of the Cadets of Temperance: an institution but recently established in Ohio, but which, in the same or similar form, is now spreading rapidly, not only in the Eastern States, but also in several of the Western: particularly in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana.

We believe it may, if properly conducted, be made a powerful auxiliary in advancing the cause of Temperance. It is indeed striking at the root of the evil, and drying up the very fountains of intoxication, and the Order must, in a few years, exert a most salutary influence in arresting the growing evils of intemperance. Thus believing, we urge upon you, as Sons of Temperance, to lend your aid in instituting in your neighborhood, a Section of the Cadets of Temperance.

To effect this, it will only be necessary for some one or two of the Members of your Division to circulate the accompanying petition, obtain a Charter, and open the Section.

The outfit for a Section of fifty members need not exceed \$25 or \$30, including books, regalia, wardrobe, charter, &c., which expense the Section will find no difficulty in raising, by contribution, or subscriptions, by the S's of T. in your Divisions. After which, the weekly contributions and initiation fees will support the Section. The former is fixed at 3 cents per week—the latter varies from 25 cents to \$1.50, according to the age of the applicant.

The whole initiation and other ceremonies have been gotten up with great care; and equal, if they do not exceed in beauty and interest, any secret ceremony with which we are acquainted. It is chiefly performed by the boys themselves; though every Section has an officer called Worthy Patron, (who is a S. of T.) who has the general supervision of the whole proceedings.

Sections are rapidly spreading over our State, and we think the time is not distant when our juvenile population will be permanently organized into Sections, and enlisted actively in the common warfare against intemperance, to aid in the speedy accomplishment of which, we respectfully ask the attention of all true Sons of Temperance.

Below are forms of Petition and Certificate; the former of which must be signed by not less than twelve boys, (ten of whom must be over twelve years of age,) and the Worthy Patron elect of the new Section; the latter must be signed by the W. Patriarch, or a P. W. P. of the Division of which said W. Patron elect is a member.

All petitions and communications may be forwarded, post paid, to either of the undersigned.

By order of the Grand Section of the C. of T. of the State of Ohio,

J. F. FORBUS, G. W. P.

D. L. Talbot
B. ST. JAMES FRY, G. Sec.

FORM OF PETITION.

*Called — Sec.
m — C. of T.* The undersigned boys, living in ———, in the State of Ohio, with the full consent and approbation of our parents or guardians, respectfully petition the Grand Section of the State of Ohio, to grant them a charter to open a new Section to be located in ———, and to be under your jurisdiction.

We pledge ourselves to be governed by the laws and usages of the Order of the Cadets of Temperance.

Enclosed is fee for Charter, R. B's, Officer's Cards, Constitution, and sample of regalia: \$3.00.

CERTIFICATE.

This is to certify that Brother ———, whose name appears to the above petition as W. Patron elect, is now a S. of T. in good standing in ——— Division, No. ———, S. of T.

Rev. James D. Fenley
Columbo O.

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1847