

the Act who now thoroughly approved of it. Children, who before the Act, were nearly starved and half naked were now well fed and comfortably clothed and cared for. Mr. Morris, of Omagh, reported a greatly improved condition of affairs socially and morally in his region since the passage of the Scott Act. Mr. Lister, of Nassagaweya, reported in a similar strain from his neighborhood. Mr. Warren, of Esquesing, near Acton, said that the Scott Act was considered to be a decided success in his neighborhood; not one had voted against it when the former vote was taken. What drinking was done in Acton was done so secretly that it was hardly recognizable; very few drunken men were now to be seen in Acton. The first objection against the Act was the fear of difficult hotel accommodation, but that was not now to be heard. Rev. R. R. Maitland, of Lowville, reported that the working of the Act in his vicinity was very encouraging; he was of opinion that not a drop of liquor was now being sold in the Lowville Hotel. The outlook for a successful issue in case of another vote on the question was extremely favorable. One man had said to him, "You have no idea of the change for the better among the people here." One gentleman was of opinion that the Act was a decided success in Cumminsville. Some liquor was sold there, but things were very quiet. The Convention then adjourned till half-past one.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The reception of reports of delegates was continued. Mr. Peddie, of Esquesing, said that in his locality the Act had been very successful. Mr. Hartly said that he had been in Milton as frequently since the passage of the Act as he had been before. He had not seen a drunken man in Milton since the middle of last summer. Mr. Menzies, Reeve of Nassagaweya, had named six or seven men that were now sober and churchgoing, owing to the influence of the Scott Act. Very little was now sold in Nelson. The Act had done as much and more than he had ever expected of it. Rev. T. R. Earl, Mr. Hall, of Georgetown; Rev. J. P. Bell, Mr. H. McNair, and Mr. R. S. Hall, all spoke in the most encouraging tone regarding the working of the Scott Act. Rev. James Coultts reported the action of the committee appointed by the last Convention respecting the inspector; they had waited on the Government and laid the case before it, and the consequence was that an additional inspector had been appointed. The Treasurer's report was read by the Rev. T. R. Earl, and adopted. The following Committee on Finance was appointed: Messrs. Robert Warren, R. A. Fleming, Johnson Harrison, James Lister. Mr. John White addressed the Convention on the finance question and the working of the Act, declaring it to have done good in Milton. The following committee on Literature was appointed: Rev. R. R. Maitland, Mr. James Peddie, and Mr. James Hartly.

The committee on finance presented the following report: Your committee having considered the matter of finance, consider that a sum of not less than \$350 should be raised to pay present debts and defray current expenses, and suggest that a subscription be started here among the delegates present to-day and to-morrow, and that the collection taken at the mass-meeting to-night be applied to the same purpose, the remainder to be raised by subscriptions in the different wards of the county. The report was adopted, and, Mr. John White taking charge of the subscription paper, raised nearly \$120 in the hall in a few moments. The report on the committee on literature was adopted, and after it the committee on organization presented a report recommended that one or more persons be appointed in each township to form

WARD ORGANIZATIONS.

This report was adopted and at once acted upon. The Convention then made the following appointments:—For Nassagaweya, Rev. John Neil and Wm. Henderson; Esquesing, Rev. M. C. Cameron and Mr. Geo. Kennedy; Nelson, Rev. Mr. Bell and Messrs. Wood and D. Hartly; Trafalgar, Mr. Johnson Harrison, Dr. Buck, and Messrs. Ireland and Husband.

EVENING MEETING.

At night the hall was filled to its utmost capacity before the hour for opening the meeting had arrived. The chair was occupied by the Rev. M. C. Cameron, who called upon the Rev. C. Coopman to open the meeting by prayer. After prayer the chairman read a letter of regret from Mr. W. H. Howland, who was prevented from being present by a severe attack of bronchitis. The Rev. Jas. Coultts was the first to address the meeting. He strongly advocated total abstinence and the education of children to the taking of the pledge, the earlier the better. He thought that the Scott Act was doing much for the county of Halton. True some old soakers were still in the habit of

getting their drink in dark corners, but temptation was taken away from the boys who were growing up. He held that the license law was contrary to the law of God because it authorized one man to do harm to his fellow-man. He thought that temperance men should be united. There might be important political questions to be settled, but in his time he had never seen a question of one-twentieth the importance of the temperance question. If both candidates pledged themselves fairly and squarely to the temperance party then temperance people could support their own party candidates, but if one candidate pledged himself and the other did not, then every temperance man should support the pledged candidate no matter to what party he happened to belong. The speaker closed his address with a graceful tribute to the *Globe* for the stand it had taken in the temperance question as well as for the commission it had sent to Maine some three years ago to investigate the working of prohibition in that State. This he characterized as the grandest service any Canadian journal had ever rendered the cause of temperance.

Rev. JOHN NEIL was next called upon. He said that it was not his intention to make a general address, but simply to point out very briefly the effect which the Scott Act was having in his own township, Nassagaweya. Formerly every public meeting in the township was marked with more or less drunkenness. Now people got through with their business and went home sober. In his township important

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had taken place in the families of many who were accounted hopeless drunkards before the Scott Act was passed. These men themselves testified both in their words and in their lives for the efficacy of the Scott Act. He thought, however, that one of the greatest triumphs achieved by the Scott Act was the removal of temptation from the path of the young. It had been urged against the Scott Act that it had been the cause of perjury, because men had sworn to falsehoods to conceal their guilt when they had broken it. It should rather be said of anything which was so terribly destructive to men's moral nature as to cause them to solemnly call upon their God to bear witness to a lie, merely for the sake of getting it, that the sooner such a fearfully demoralizing agency should be swept away the better for the community.

Mr. F. S. SPENCE, of Toronto, was the next speaker. His address was an eloquent and at the same time a very logical one. By a series of cleverly conceived similes he made very clear the intimate relation which should always exist between moral suasion and restrictive legislation. He made very evident the responsibility of the retailer, the wholesaler, and the distiller of whisky for the crimes committed by men who were crazed with whisky. But the responsibility did not end with the distiller. It also rested upon the Government that licensed the manufacture and sale of liquor and also upon the people who supported such a Government.

Rev. Mr. NELSON, of Lawrence, Kansas, was the next to address the meeting. Prohibition, he said, was as well enforced all over Kansas as any other law on the statute books. Since he had left home he had received the cheering news that the whisky-sellers of Lawrence had at last given up the contest, and had closed their places in good faith.

Grand Worthy Patriarch JOHN McMILLAN, of the Sons of Temperance, of Toronto, was the last to address the meeting. He spoke encouragingly of the state of affairs in Halton.

Mr. JOHN WHITE moved a vote of thanks to the speakers, which was carried enthusiastically.

WEDNESDAY MORNING'S SESSION.

After prayer by the Rev. T. R. Earle the minutes of the previous afternoon session were read and approved. The following local organizers were appointed by the Convention:—

Burlington—Major Kearns, M. P. P., and Mr. John Waldie. Oakville—Mr. Chas. Taylor and Mr. M. L. Biggar. Milton—Mr. W. H. Lindsay and Mr. J. Dice. Georgetown—Dr. L. L. Bennett and Mr. W. G. Wallace. Acton—Mr. James Moore.

It was resolved that the organization of the county be proceeded with at once. It was resolved that the Township and Town Committees be instructed to call conventions in their several municipalities in cases where they think it wise to do so. Some discussion took place relative to the action of the license party in circulating a petition for a repeal of the Scott Act in the county. It was understood that very grave misrepresentations regarding the nature and purpose of this petition had been made to electors by those who were circulating it.

The following Committee on Resolutions was appointed:—Rev. John Neil and Messrs. Geo. Kennedy and J. Peddie. The Com-