

The Canada Citizen

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

A Journal devoted to the advocacy of Prohibition, and the promotion of social progress and moral Reform.

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All communications should be addressed to

F. S. SPENCE. - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO FRIDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1883.

N.B.—Next week's CANADA CITIZEN will contain a report of Archdeacon Farrar's great sermon on Temperance, preached at Westminster Abbey on the Church of England Temperance Society's anniversary.

THE ALLIANCE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Dominion Council of the Dominion Alliance for the suppression of the liquor-traffic will hold its next annual meeting at Ottawa, on the 30th and 31st days of January. We have already placed the claims and objects of this organization before our readers fully and frequently. The Dominion Council is made up of the executive councils of the different Provincial Branches, together with specially elected representatives from these branches as follows:—From Ontario and Quebec, 30 each, from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, 15 each; from Prince Edward Island, 5; from Manitoba, 3. It is very desirable that there should be a full attendance, as from the representative character and important functions of the meeting, it will, no doubt, be of incalculable interest and usefulness. Provincial Branches should send lists of delegates and reports of proceedings without delay, to S. A. ABBOTT, Secretary, (pro tem.) 185 Cadieux St., Montreal.

1884!

We have entered upon a year that promises, more than any former year promised, to be a period of determined conflict between civilization and the barbarous drink-system that is to-day the greatest hindrance to the progress and elevation of our race. In the records of of 1883 we read of effort and success unparalleled and even unanticipated. From the vantage ground of this achievement we can see more clearly the true dimensions of the task that

lie before us; we can estimate more correctly the magnitude of the forces with which we have to contend, and foretell more accurately what awaits us in the future. The retrospect and the prospect are both refreshing. "Our Experience worketh Hope." We "thank God and take courage."

Now then, as we bend ourselves anew to the stern conflict, let us remember that we have won no laurels to rest upon, that the deadly conflict is but begun, and that we have really only been through the preliminary skirmishes of a grand campaign. The liquor traffic is fully as alert as we are, and is strengthening its unholy position with every available appliance for assault and defence. Success in the future will mean even more enthusiastic and determined effort than what has yet been put forth. Let us accept and never forget the sound doctrines of *individual responsibility* and *duty of co-operation*. We must work, every man, woman, and child of us, as if success depended upon individual unaided effort, and we must also remember that in Union is Strength, and that in this union we must stand upon no personal prejudices. Evil and weakness come of egotism, animosity, selfishness, and want of sympathy. There must be enthusiasm and work on the part of individuals, and hearty co-operation in and between all our societies. As individuals and organizations, we need more earnest zeal and more thorough discipline.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

We shall have no further opportunity, before the municipal elections, of appealing to our friends to do their duty at the polls. The control of the liquor-traffic for the coming year will, to a great extent, be placed in the hands of the men who will be elected next Monday. The duty of temperance electors is clear. There is no other question, to which the attention of our councils will be given, that is as important to our country and our homes, as is the question of restricting and curtailing the liquor-traffic. Voters should unhesitatingly ignore many merely personal considerations and minor issues, and rally determinedly and unitedly for the return of men who can be relied upon to do all in their power for the limitation of the terrible drink-curse. The question is now somewhat simplified, the nominations have been made, and the matter is simply one of choice. Let no candidate who is unsound on the liquor-question have any support from right-thinking electors. If we do our duty at the polls, even where we fail to secure immediate success, we shall teach would-be-representatives for all time to come, that the temperance vote is now a factor in politics that cannot be disregarded, and we shall secure a recognition that cannot fail to give us vastly increased influence and power. Our duty is plain; let our conduct be consistent.

Contributed Articles.

THE CANADA TEMPERANCE ACT IN HALTON.

FIRST PAPER.

No doubt many readers of THE CANADA CITIZEN are anxious to hear from Halton, concerning the working of the "Canada Temperance Act" in the County. As Halton is the only place in Ontario where this Act is in force, the desire of temperance workers to hear tidings from it is not at all unreasonable. They have a right to know whether the Act is a success or not; and if it is not, whether the cause of failure lies in the Act itself, or in the imperfect enforcement of it, or if the difficulties of enforcement are insuperable? The friends of temperance have a reasonable right to this information.

THE CRY OF FAILURE.

There are many reports in circulation outside the county about the working of the Act, some of which are true, some entirely false, and some partly true and partly false. That so many contradictory statements are made is evidence that the Act is not a failure. If it were as great a failure as its enemies declare it to be, there would not be