

prohibition than they are in that of either Grit or Tory faction. They recognize that Sir John must be very near the end of his political career as leader, and they look upon Mr. Blake as a leader who has thus far given evidence of a lack of some qualities which are essential in keeping a party together for any lengthened period.

The time seems to be ripe for the advent of a prohibition leader. He must be a man of sagacity and political experience, thoroughly drilled in the tactics of political warfare, with youth and vigor on his side, with time and energy at his command, a man who is not closely identified with either of the existing parties, but who is willing to take his chances on the prohibition plank.

I hope to see at the head of your editorial column very soon the name of such a man, in bold type, standing as the representative of a new order of things. Yours for progress,

June 6th, 1885.

PROHIBITIONIST.

A BURNING QUESTION.

The burning question of to-day is how to put a stop to the burning of buildings and other destruction of property by those who are burning with rage on account of the enforcement of the Scott Act. We learn from the columns of an anti-Scott Act paper and other sources, that the burning of buildings with almost every species of crime, not excepting murder, is part of the programme for fighting the Prohibition movement, and facts are not wanting to show that efforts are now being made to carry this programme out.

The *Bruce Reporter*, of June 4th says: "The work of the incendiary was begun on the 25th of April, when the torch was applied to R. T. Walker's store house. A month later, to a day, Joseph Barker's stable and driving house met with a like fate. And now a week later still, on Monday night last, Mr. Barker's office, containing the whole of the papers of the Division Court, was set on fire and burned to the ground." In Walkerton shortly after the trial of the liquor cases, Mr. Smyth's windows were broken in with stones in the middle of the night, and the most diabolical threats have been made with a view to terrorize every person who has made any efforts to enforce the law.

The question now is whether the people of Bruce are to be ruled by lawless rowdyism or by the statutes enacted by its proper representatives. If the burning policy succeeds, it may be adopted in defence of other lawless practices, as well as selling strong drink. Any band of scoundrels who have shocked the country by crimes, which outrage every sense of propriety, has only to bid defiance to the law, leave a coffin at the door of the constable, threaten to burn up the judge or magistrate, who will dare to sit on their case, and then smash in the windows of any man who disapproves of their conduct.

Are the people of Bruce to be cowed into submission by fiendish threats and lawless outrages? No. If it costs not only the property, but the life of every person who interferes, let no stone be left unturned to put a stop to this disgraceful business. Many precious lives have already been sacrificed in the North-West rebellion which has not caused one-tenth of the misery caused by the liquor traffic. The first thing which the Town Councils of Kincardine and Walkerton should do, is to offer a liberal reward for information which would lead to the conviction of the guilty party, and the second thing is to make good the loss sustained from the outrages; if the men who employ these incendiaries know that they must pay their share of the damage done, they would not be so ready to seek revenge in that manner.

Splendid generosity was manifested by the Councils of different municipalities, as well as by private individuals, on behalf of the volunteers called out to quell the rebellion in the North-West, but we have rebels in Ontario whose treachery and cowardice are far less excusable. Will the civil authorities sit and look complacently on, while the law is being outraged, without any attempt to convict the criminals, or protect their victims? Will the people of Bruce sit still and see those men victimized who have come nobly to the front at a critical time, and who in the midst of a storm of persecution, are endeavouring to secure respect for the law, which a majority of the electors have asked for at the polls?

If the proper authorities will not look after the matter, let meetings be held in every locality, where means may be devised to protect those who are striving to enforce the law, and let a subscription sheet be passed around, that all who believe in liberty of speech, and the impartial administration of justice, may have an opportunity of sharing with these families the loss sustained on account of services rendered for the public good. J. MORRY.

Campaign Everywhere.

HASTINGS.—The organization of the Scott Act campaign is being pushed vigorously. Arrangements have been made for addresses by Mrs. Youmans, Mrs. Peck, F. S. Spence and others. Mrs. Youmans is expected to address a mass meeting in Stirling on the evening of the 21st inst.—*Stirling News-Argus*.

HALTON.—The Halton Temperance Alliance will hold its annual meeting in the Methodist Church, Milton, on the 22nd of this month, commencing at 10 a.m. It is expected that the convention will be very largely attended. The amendments that have been or are about to be made to the Scott Act will, it is expected, receive the bulk of attention.

MIDDLESEX.—The *St. Mary's Argus* says:—London had two Scott Act lectures last week. One on Wednesday, whereby a sixteen-year-old girl was drowned because she and her companions capsized a boat in their drunken revelries. The other on Friday evening, when a drunken brute stabbed a woman, who lived with him as wife, five or six times with a jack knife, from the effects of which she died the next day.

STORMONT.—Before the Scott Act came into force, the town of Cornwall found two policemen scarcely sufficient to look after the drunk and disorderly. Since it came into force they have discharged one of these officials, thereby saving the town \$540, and the only policeman has little or nothing to do. Some people think the Scott Act a failure. Is not this just the kind of failures we want?

WATERLOO.—Mr. Young, Police Magistrate of Halton, delivered a lecture on the Scott Act, in the Town Hall, Berlin, on Sunday afternoon to a large audience. Mr. Jac. Y. Shantz occupied the chair, and briefly introduced Mr. Young, who entered at once upon his subject. He showed by criminal statistics and other figures that crime had been greatly lessened in his county since the Act was in force. From this he argued that there must be proportionately less liquor drunk. He entered upon the working of the Act, and showed wherein the difficulty of enforcing it consisted. He strongly urged the people of this County to support the Act, and thought it could be fairly well enforced.—*Berlin News*.

HALDIMAND.—Petitions from all over the country against the wine and beer amendment passed by the all wise (?) Senate, are pouring into the House of Commons. All the conferences, synods, and leading religious organizations of the day are bringing all their influence to bear against it. Haldimand is not behind we are glad to know, and over one hundred petitions are now circulated throughout all parts of the country, and a vigorous effort is being put forth to show how the citizens of Haldimand feel toward the liquor question.—*Uagersville Times*.

SIMCOE.—It is now over a month since the Scott Act came into effect in Simcoe County, during which time not a single prisoner has been committed to Barrie gaol for drunkenness. A decided improvement both in business and moral respectability is plainly to be seen on every side. Men now attend to their business with promptitude, and leave the town early, just as if they felt an interest in their own as well as their families' welfare. Even should no further progress be made, the county will feel itself well repaid for all the trouble and expense incurred for stopping the flow of the poison thus far.

HURON.—The County Council on Thursday, by a vote of 27 to 21, agreed to memorialize the Lieutenant-Governor to appoint a police magistrate for the county to enforce the Scott Act, on condition that the House of Commons throw out the Senate's amendment to the Scott Act. A motion to petition the House of Commons not to pass the proposed wine and beer clause was carried by a majority of 18.

The Scott Act here, although not enforced with the rigor it should be, is proving a success. Liquor is undoubtedly sold, but not the quantities formerly consumed. Drunken men are seen occasionally on our streets, but those are men who have no care for their reputation. Every drunken man is noticed, thus the number is magnified and utterly false reports circulated as to the number of "drunks" here. Is it extremely hard to get a drink now, and we think ere long it will be a much more difficult matter than at present, and drunken men are certainly not so numerous.—*Wingham Times*.

ONTARIO.—The polling day being fixed for this county, the Executives of both the North and South Riding held meetings simultaneously, the former in Uxbridge, and the latter in Whitby, when steps were taken towards prosecuting a vigorous campaign. The friends in this county expect to roll up a splendid majority for the Scott Act.

The *Whitby Chronicle* says:— "Whatever may be the issue of the proposed amendments they will not stay the popular voice in expressing its approval of the measure in which this and other counties—as with those who have already done so—will shortly vote. The reason would seem indeed to be the more urgent to make the majorities even larger than the more sanguine friends of the cause might anticipate, not alone as an amendment of the principle of prohibition, but as an indignant protest from the independent electorate against this unheard-of stop of the Senate in interfering with public rights.

GREY.—A monster meeting was held in Owen Sound on the 7th inst., in the Town Hall, in the interests of temperance, and in reference to the proposed amendments to the Scott Act by the Senate. The hall was packed full, so that