

# THE CANADA CITIZEN

AND TEMPERANCE HERALD

Freedom for the Right Means Suppression of the Wrong.

VOL. 5.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1st, 1884.

NO. 5.

## 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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F. S. SPENCE, - - - MANAGER.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 1884.

This number is sent to many friends whose names are not yet on our subscription list. Will they kindly aid our enterprise by forwarding their dollars and addresses? It is desirable to subscribe early, as we propose making every number well worth preserving for future reference and use.

### THE PETITIONS.

The united counties of Dundas, Stormont, and Glengarry have already transmitted their petition to the Secretary of State. The counties of Prince Edward, Peel and Kent are ready, and in other counties the canvass is rapidly approaching completion. A very significant feature of these petitions, strongly indicative of the overwhelming public sentiment that supports them, is the unusually large number of signatures attached. In no case have our workers contented themselves with the mere twenty-five per cent. of qualified voters that the law requires. Forty per cent. has been secured in most cases.

It is well known that there are many of our supporters, many whose ballots will certainly be marked for temperance and right, who for various reasons decline to sign these petitions; and the prospects for success in the counties now almost ready to vote, are even brighter than we had ventured to anticipate. Our friends however are realizing that we are working for something more than the bare adoption of the Scott Act. We are working for an enormous aggregate majority; and we shall have it. It is nearly three years now since we met with a defeat, and 775 is the smallest majority that we have polled since October 1882. We are piling up a grand total majority with which we shall soon be able to demand the utter abolition of the whole liquor traffic.

We wish to urge upon our friends the desirability of expedition in their work. The Act cannot be brought into operation until a longer time than five months has elapsed after the voting. If the earliest time that it could be brought into operation is later than the first day of next May, than it cannot come into force until May 1st, 1886. It will be seen at once that voting to bring the Scott Act into operation next year must not be later than early in the coming November. Even that time will be rather late. There are certain formalities that must be gone through before our petitions are acted upon and about a month is required for notice of the polling, so that it is absolutely essential that petitions should be at Ottawa at the earliest possible date. Again we urge our friends to push their canvass through as quickly as they can.

### WORK.

Our ground of confidence in the success of the present campaign is the determination to work that seems to inspire our friends in every part of the Dominion. We have a glorious cause, we have public sympathy, we have all the facts, all the arguments, all the best interests of the best part of the community on our side, but these will not win unless we have the votes, and these can only be brought out by persistent effort.

We must bear in mind that desperate efforts are being put forth against us, that we have to fight a foe who is "crafty and powerful," a traffic that goes into the conflict to win or die, and that in opposition to us will be arrayed all the ability, all the organization, all the tactics and agencies that money and selfishness can command. We must be prepared for stern fight and for subtle strategy, and ready at every point to meet energy, determination, and organization, by organization, determination and energy.

Here is an opportunity for our young Canadians who aspire to heroism in a worthy cause. Here is a struggle for purity, for truth, for right, stirring enough to quicken the pulses of the hoariest veteran in the service of moral reform, and worthy the consecration of the loftiest talents and the most ardent philanthropy. The days of chivalry have not gone by! No gorgeous array of mail-clad men and prancing steeds, with roll of drum, and clash of arms, ever marched on a grander crusade than that for which we ask recruits to-day. It is true that the field of conflict is not the bloodstained battle-ground, but the fight is none the less real; our weapons are not carnal:

"Tis not with flag nor flaunting rag  
For God and truth we fight.  
Tis not with blaze of murderous guns,  
We battle for the right.  
Our shields and swords are living words,  
The mind our battle plain.  
There victories have been won before  
And must be won again."

We have entered into one of the hardest, as well as one of the grandest conflicts that the world has ever seen; and no soldier can be spared from the ranks. We need men and women of moral bone, intellectual muscle and nerve of philanthropic sympathy. There is work for all, we need hands and heads and hearts and tongues and pens and purses and prayers.