

keeper has ten other voters in the circle of his friends, the temperance people *must* submit, and the four elevens have power to resist and coerce the whole community.

The new License Act gives a veto power against the issue of licenses in any polling subdivision, to a petition signed by two-thirds of the electors therein, but it is easy to see that this provision is also unfairly favorable to the liquor party. The principle of local option has been accepted by our legislators, let it be carried out in some form that will not invariably place the temperance people at a disadvantage and give the whisky-sellers the upper hand.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

The newspapers have been discussing the new Licensing Act, and generally comparing it with the various existing provincial license laws. It is well worthy of note, that invariably these rival measures are criticized from a temperance standpoint. The advocates are endeavoring to show the advantages that their respective acts present in the form of provisions for the restriction of the liquor traffic. It is everywhere assumed that the true test of merit is the amount of prohibition provided, and in no case are the permissive features of a law pointed out as merits. This is a grand testimony to the direction of the strong current of public sentiment. A few years ago, any aggression upon the so-called privileges of liquor-dealers, would have met with stern opposition from newspapers anxious for the support of this influential part of the body politic. Now there are none to "do him reverence," at least ostensibly. It has been recognized that the "banner of advance" in the direction of prohibition must be carried in the ranks of any party that would claim popular allegiance and support. All this goes to show that "a quickened moral sense in the community" has been attained as the result of intellectual growth and persistent presentation of sound temperance truth. The quickening will go on. To the culmination of every grand reform the people have grown by degrees. When light breaks triumphantly into the darkened cell, its power and beauty are not appreciated by the dazzled vision. The first apprehensions of it are of a very imperfect kind. But the feeble sight, not the blessing sunbeam, is to be blamed for the dimness. Soon it will be accustomed to its new and more harmonious surroundings, and find beauty and fitness in what was first resented as a troubling innovation. Let us hail with gratitude every harbinger of the brighter future, and earnestly work with loving zeal to hasten its advent.

MORNING.

When at first the light of truth is
Flashed across the world of thought,
With potential inspiration,
For all future being fraught—

All the noisome mists of error
Rise to veil the glory bright;
And distorted, red, unreal,
Looms the orb upon our sight.

Till the sun, whose coming's challenge,
Called them from their earthy source,
Rises towards the noon-day grandeur
Of his ever onward course.

Then the dimness, damp and falsehood
Fly, and, pure in beauty rare,
Streams unchecked the holy splendor,
Life imparting, free and fair.

Selected Articles.

MEN WANTED.

The world wants men—large-hearted, manly men;
Men who will join its chorus, and prolong
The psalm of labor and the psalm of love.
The times wants scholars—scholars who shall shape
The doubtful destinies of dubious years.
And land the ark that bears our country's good
Safe on some peaceful Ararat at last.
The age wants heroes—heroes who will dare
To struggle in the solid ranks of truth;
To clutch the monster error by the throat;
To bear opinion to a loftier seat;
To blot the era of oppression out,
And lead a universal freedom in.
And Heaven wants souls—fresh and capacious souls,
To taste its raptures, and expand, like flowers,
Beneath the glory of its central sun.
It wants fresh souls—not lean and shrivelled ones.
It wants fresh souls. My brother, give it thine.
If thou indeed wilt be what scholars should;
If thou wilt be a hero, and wilt strive
To help thy fellow and exalt thyself,
Thy feet, at last, shall stand on jasper floors;
Thy heart, at last, shall seem a thousand hearts—
Each single heart with myriad raptures filled—
While thou shalt sit with princes and with kings,
Rich in the jewel of a ransomed soul.

—Selected.

TEMPERANCE IN ENGLAND.

The temperance movement is making remarkable progress in England. The revenue returns afford unanswerable proof of the decreased consumption of alcoholic liquors. Mr. Childer showed in the course of his recent Budget speech that the revenue from excise duties is now \$25,000,000 less than it was seven years ago. This indicates an enormous diminution in the consumption of beer and spirits throughout the United Kingdom. That this decrease is not due to hard times or commercial depression is proved by the steady increase in the consumption of tea during the same period. The English people are becoming more temperate. Drunkenness is not so fruitful a source of misery and crime as it has been.

The popular interest which is felt in the cause of temperance is evinced simultaneously in religious, social and political circles. Among the Non-conformists the agitation has long been carried on with zeal, and within the establishment itself the work has assumed the proportions of a genuine religious revival. The returns from the various dioceses read at an annual meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society a fortnight ago registered a total membership of 468,674, including 26,600 in the navy and merchant service, and a large number of railway employees. The work already involves an annual outlay of \$115,000, and is enlisting the aid and encouragement of a large body of the clergy. Indeed, so remarkable are the results of the movement, that the Archbishop of Canterbury, instead of striving to awaken zeal deems it necessary to repress indiscreet ardor by warning the society that success must not lead to fanaticism. Outside the religious organizations interest has been manifested by all classes of English society: A fortnight ago an aristocratic temperance meeting was held at Stafford House, the palatial residence of the Duke of Sutherland, and the Duchess herself set the fashion for the great houses by decking herself with the blue ribbon. Distinguished earls testified to the physical benefits which they had derived from entire abstinence from alcohol; orators, with historic titles, presented cogent arguments for the adhesion of blue blood to the principles of temperance; and at the close of the proceedings patricians of both sexes signed the pledge and formally enlisted in the cause of social regeneration. The aristocratic class is naturally the last to feel the influence of a popular movement. Throughout the country coffee palaces have multiplied, local option resolutions have been passed, Sabbath-closing movements have been organized, and enthusiastic temperance meetings have been held. It is a popular uprising.

A popular question is inevitably a political question. Sir Wilfrid Lawson, after being despised as a fanatic and tolerated on the floor of the