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A Journal Devoted to the Promotion of Social Progress and Moral Reform.

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 1887.

REMOVAL.

A GOOD many complaints have reached us from subscribers, of irregularity in the delivery of the CANADA CITIZEN. On account of inconvenient situation, change of quarters and other annoyances, our work has lately been much interfered with. We have now moved to new and commodious premises on the corner of Richmond and Victoria streets, where we are doing the work of our paper in our own office and hope to be able hereafter to avoid all cause for such complaints as have hitherto been received.

Any of our subscribers who visit the city are respectfully invited to call at our office.

THE MYRTLE OUTRAGE.

ELSEWHERE will be found a brief report of the recent fracas at Myrtle, which will probably have a fatal result. A band of would-be assassins followed two men for miles, evidently with murderous intent; many of these assailants being armed. The other men who had been engaged in assisting to secure the enforcement of law, were driven to defend themselves, and in doing so shot one of the most desperate and aggressive of their assailants. When a man, who has done no wrong, is placed in such a position that he must either submit to be murdered or defend himself with every available resource, there can be no blame attached to him for adopting such methods. Public sympathy in this case will be, as it ought to be, on the side of the men who did the shooting. There is in the facts another argument for the immediate appointment by the Provincial Government of a police force sufficient to secure the prompt annihilation of this liquor rowdism that now threatens the peace and order of so many parts of our Province.

A QUESTION OF EVIDENCE.

In a somewhat vigorous article the North Ontario Observer has denounced the Scott Act, and declared that the electors are eager to get rid of the measure. It is unfortunate that any section of the public press, which is to some extent, entrusted with the sacred duty of moulding public opinion, should make such a deliverance on an incorrect or misapprehended view of the facts of the case. The most ardent supporters of the Scott Act do not claim that it is the embodiment of perfection, but simply ask for a fair trial by an unprejudiced jury. Nothing can be gained by either side through a misstatement of the evidence, for the facts can easily be obtained from good authorities, and the bare suspicion of falsehood is enough to discredit any case. The Observer states that there is a sad revulsion of feeling against the Scott Act, but this cannot be correct because there has never been a successful repeal movement. It is also stated that the Act has been productive of wide-spread demoralization. It is evidently the liquor sellers who are demoralized; for, according to the government returns, a year's Scott Act

reduced the convictions for drunkenness in Durham and Northumberland from 111 in 1885 to 81 in 1886. Similar reductions were experienced in other counties as the following figures show:-- Elgin from 151 to 96; Kent from 103 to 89; Ontario from 108 to 70. It is to be regretted that the terrible evils of drunkenness could not be eliminated by the Scott Act in one year, but the ratio of decrease is sufficiently large to show that this crime will soon be unknown where the Scott Act is in force.

The statement is made by the Observer that "the consumption of spirits and of inferior quality, has notoriously increased, as shown by the revenue returns," and the "consumption of beer has been discouraged to the injury of public sobriety and health." If the Observer will turn to appendix "A" on page xxix of the "Returns and Statistics of the Inland Revenue of the Dominion of Canada" for 1886 it will observe that the consumption of spirits per head decreased greatly in 1886 and there was a slight increase in the consumption per head of beer and wine. While Canadians consumed 1 1/2 gallons per head in 1885 they were satisfied with 7 1/2 of a gallon in 1886. Beer, which could not find its way into many Scott Act counties, increased from 2 639 gallons per head in 1885 to 2,838 in 1886 and wine from 103 of a gallon per head in 1885 to 110 in 1886. These figures are at variance with the statement of the Observer and it will be generally conceded that as they have government authority they are the only reliable evidence on the subject.

The complaint is made by the Observer that the Scott Act is violated with impunity. The enforcement is not yet perfect, but the violators according to the official report of Mr. MANNING were compelled to pay in fines during the three months ending October 31st, 1887, no less a sum than \$2,890. This is evidence that the Canada Temperance Act is not violated with impunity. On the whole the Observer will see that the case is not so bad as it has been led to believe. The evidence shows that there is public confidence in the Scott Act. The government returns show a decrease in the consumption of spirits. The money collected in fines prove that the Act is not being violated with impunity, and it only remains for the fair-minded journals of Canada to give publicity to the facts and the people will declare that the Scott Act has demonstrated the practicability of prohibition.

Drink and Vice.

BY AARON M. POWELL.

AMONG the agencies of evil inciting to sexual immorality intoxicating liquors are pre eminent. To abnormal sexual passion, alcohol is as fuel to the devouring flame. In his "History of Prostitution," Dr Sanger, as the result of extended and careful inquiry, says:-- "Our decided impression is that not one per cent of the prostitutes in New York practice their calling without partaking of intoxicating drinks." Replies received from a large number inquired "Do you drink intoxicating liquor? If so to what extent?" revealed the fact, by their own confession, that these unfortunate women, who, as a business gave themselves up to the service of sensual men, nearly all drank "moderately," "immoderately," or were "habitual drunkards." One is quoted saying: "No girls could lead the life we do without gin." Another says "If we did not drink we could not stand the memory of what we have been, and the thought of what we are, for a day." "Drunkennes and debauchery says Dr. Sanger "are inseparable companions, one almost invariably following the other." The bottle is as much a requisite of the brothel as the Bible of a church.

As a means of seduction intoxicating liquors are the source of incalculable injury; of the moral ruin of countless thousands of women and girls. Again, says Dr. Sanger: "Young women are often persuaded to take one or two glasses of liquor and their ruin may soon be expected. Others are induced to drink spirits in which a narcotic has been infused to render them insensible to their ruin. In short it is scarcely possible to enumerate the many temptations which can be employed to when intoxicating drinks are

used as the agent." A shocking feature of the horrible story of Mr. Stead's "Maiden Tribute," revealing the dreadful crimes against girlhood in London, was the use made of wine and strong drink in accomplishing the ruin of children and young girls.

The appalling tale recounts the experiences of girls lured to places of evil by the offer of high wages, or other attractive considerations, then tempted to drink, if possible made drunk, then to awaken to the discovery that their ruin had been accomplished and their character gone. Then "hopeless and desperate without money, without friends, all avenues of escape closed, she has only one choice "She must do as others do" the great formula "or starve in the streets," and thus the brothel acquires a new inmate, and another focus of sin and contagion is added to the streets. One former London brothel-keeper testifies that "girls often shrink from going out, and need almost to be driven into the streets. If it was not for gin and the landlady they could never carry it on." She adds "Some girls I used to have would come and sit and cry in my kitchen and declare they could not go out, they could not stand the life. I had to give them a dram and take them out myself, and set them going again, for if they did not seek gentlemen where was I to pay my rent?" The strong drink deadened their consciousness and made possible their deeper degradation. Another said to Mr. Stead "Drunk parents often sell their children to brothel-keepers," thus verifying in modern times the words of the Prophet Joel "They have sold a girl for wine, that they may drink."

But it is not girls alone who are thus seduced from the pathway of virtue, and their moral ruin wrought through the agency of intoxicating beverages. Multitudes of young men begin their evil courses in this way. With the false notion, perpetuated by society, that they may properly, for a season, "see the world," and are confronted directly, in improper associations, with the drink temptation vicious women, themselves not unlikely betrayed in the beginning, then abandoned, and socially outlawed, take their revenge, as well as gain their livelihood, by bringing within their coils as many young men as possible. Here again the medium of a common moral degradation is strong drink. Illustrative of this, Dr Sanger quotes a descriptive sketch of a high-class Berlin "Dancing Saloon," wherein "may be found girls of rare beauty, steeped to the lips in all the arts of iniquity, where scenes of bacchant excitement and wildest abandonment may be witnessed." The writer says "The outward show is all mirth and happiness, pleasure unrestrained seems the business of the place. Turn the picture. The most showy of the costumes are hired, the gaiety is for a living; the liberty is licentiousness. These creatures, who, all blithesome as they seem, the victims of others who fleece them of everything they can earn, are now engaged in securing victims from whom they may wring the gains which are to pay for the hire of their elegant dresses, or furnish means for further excesses, or perhaps pay for their supper that evening. It is the fashion of the place for each gentleman to invite a lady to supper, where the quantity of wine drunk is incredible. How many a young man has to trace not merely loss of cash and health to such a place, but also loss of honor. With varying degrees of modification, but as perilous pitfalls for both young men and young women, may be found the American counterpart of this Berlin dancing saloon in the beer gardens and dancing halls of our larger cities. Many a gilded, high-license liquor saloon, fitted up with especial aesthetic attractions for young men, is but the open portal to the invisible brothel.

In fashionable society life, where no evil is intended, and no immediate evil act may ensue, with the heated apartments, the late hours, the indecate exposure of the persons of extra fashionable young women, the wine-cup and the punch bowl become factors of especial danger. Not infrequently they prepare the way for an easy descent into serious moral laxity, and ultimate in wrecked lives, ruined homes, and shocking social scandals.

An essential safeguard to purity in both sexes, is abstinence from all intoxicating beverages, the lighter as well as the stronger intoxicants. The State, whose proper function it is to protect the weak against the strong, and, according to Mr. Gladstone, "to make it easy to do right and difficult to do wrong," and which maintains public schools for the education of its children, should, in the interests of public morality, abolish the saloon as a centre and propagandist of obscenity and impurity, and outlaw the drink traffic, fully denounced by a distinguished Sana-

tor, on the floor of the United States Senate, as "the gigantic crime of crimes." In this connection, to every philanthropic, Christian citizen, comes with peculiar significance and force, Isaiah's message, [Ivii, 14]. "Prepare the way, take up the stumbling-block out of the way of my people."

The Fatal Mistake.

Oh! can it be that he is gone, The serpent lured him from my side, My last, my loved, my only son, He too, a drunkard's death has died.

Dark was the day when on my hearth The unmolested viper slept, And out mid scenes of joy and mirth He softly in the wine cup crept.

Sweet music floated through the hall, And all was innocent and gay, But death was clinging to the wall, And hungry-eyed glared on his prey.

My hand reached out the brimming bowl, I urged those unattained lips, then drank, 'T was death to body and to soul And soon beneath its waves they sank.

The little stream seemed very small, I thought it would obey my law, I might as well the whirlwind call Or check Niagara with a straw.

Its gun, strength grew day by day, On either side the rums fell, And hearts and homes were swept away, And souls were hurried down to hell. Jennie Brown.

Dundas, Dec., 1887.

WORLD WIDE NOTES.

Over one hundred Ohio towns have gone dry. St. Louis will vote on local option next month.

Of the 3,285 colored voters in Atlanta, only 518 voted for Prohibition.

Thirteen cities and 275 towns and villages of Massachusetts are under prohibition this year.

The Sultan and his government have ordered the discontinuance of the liquor traffic in Constantinople.

Buffalo Bill's visit to England resulted in two of his Indians becoming demoralized by Birmingham "fire water."

Thirty counties and eleven cities in Missouri have adopted the local option prohibitory law.

At the city election held in New Haven, Conn., on Dec. 6, the city voted against prohibition by over 2,000 majority.

Rev Sam Small has announced his intention to devote his whole time during the campaign next year to Prohibition work.

By the united consent of all the European powers interested, the sale of liquor is henceforth to be prohibited in the North Sea.

According to a recent decision of the English courts the numerous proprietary clubs in London can be compelled to abstain from the sale of liquor.

At the election recently held in Tallahassee, capital city of Florida, under the local option law, the city was carried for prohibition by a good majority.

George King, very well known a good many years ago as a prize fighter, and a companion of Tom Sayers, is conducting a crusade in England against drink.

The Chicago Anarchists are getting up a benefit for families of the dead and imprisoned anarchists and have determined to sell beer in the hall in defiance of the Mayor's order.

The Dean of Cork recently said that there was spent on intoxicating drink in Ireland annually eleven millions of money, and that it is considerably more than the whole rental of Ireland.

Mr Joseph Thomson, the African traveller, says that in Zanibar the Sultan has been impotent to arrest the liquor traffic, because "Christian" nations object to any restriction of "trade."

A deputation has arrived in London from the Queen of Amatougas, with the object of beseeching Queen Victoria to save the people from destruction through the effects of liquor imported by Delagias Bay.

The Supreme Court of Iowa has decided in favor of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad in a suit brought against it by the Milwaukee Malt Extract Company for refusing to transport new beer in that State.

Sir Edmund Hay Currie, Chairman of Trustees of the People's Palace in the East End of London, and an extensive distiller, confesses that since he came to reside on the site of the palace he had been a total abstainer.

Because of the decision of the United States Supreme Court against the Kansas manufacturers, the owners of the two breweries in Sioux City, Iowa, immediately closed their doors and said no more beer will be manufactured there.

The returns of the voting in Michigan under the new local option statute on Dec. 6th show that four counties declared for prohibition with the following majorities: Iosco county, 600; Grand Traverse, 400; Ionia county, 300; Antrim county, estimated at 300.

The demand of the Ale and Porter Brewers Association of the United States that the number of apprentices be limited to one to each twenty-five men, was refused by their employers on the ground that the measure too fast to limit the apprentices to the number asked.

Rev. James Johnston, of Lagos, West Africa, recently addressed to the Colonial Secretary a respectful but earnest protest against the drink trade with that colony. The Secretary replied that unless France and Germany co-operated, British action would be useless.