

# CANADA CITIZEN

## AND TEMPERANCE HERALD

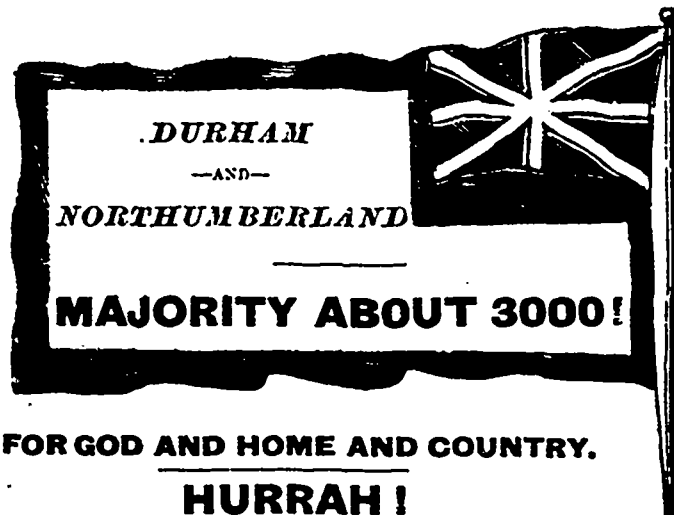
FREEDOM FOR THE RIGHT MEANS SUPPRESSION OF THE WRONG.

VOL. 5.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27th, 1885.

NO. 35.

### ANOTHER GLORIOUS VICTORY!



Again with thankful hearts we record the addition of two more counties to our glorious honor roll of territory, in which the accursed liquor-traffic has been outlawed by the votes of electors, determined to submit no longer to the cruel tyranny of drink. This makes the seventh contest for 1885, and so far we have suffered no reverse. The majority is so large as to practically settle the question of whether or not an attempt will be made to repeal the Act, and we heartily congratulate our friends in Durham and Northumberland on their magnificent success. They had to contend with unusual difficulty, with opponents desperate enough to resort to any method of warfare, and mean enough to actually steal the petitions from the Sheriff's office, hoping thereby to checkmate the Scott Act workers; but their stratagems have been defeated. The people of the counties were disgusted by the paltry tricks and contemptible devices of the whiskey ring, and the glorious record recorded above brings our Dominion one step nearer towards total prohibition. Again, we thank God and take courage.

Our readers will have noticed that on Friday last, Mr. Wood, for Prof. Foster, introduced in the House of Commons, a bill to amend the Liquor License Act, 1883. The Bill simply proposes to repeal clause 145 of the said Act, which section reads as follows:—

"The sale of liquor without license in any municipality, where 'The Canada Temperance Act, 1878,' is in force, shall nevertheless be a contravention of sections eighty-three and eighty-four of this Act, and the several provisions of this Act shall have full force and effect in every such municipality, except in so far as such provisions relate to granting licenses for the sale of liquor by retail."

The Supreme Court of New Brunswick recently decided that this clause virtually repeals all the clauses of the Scott Act except those that prohibit the issue of licenses; the Supreme Court of another province has given a conflicting decision, and Prof. Foster's Bill is intended to do away with the uncertainty and leave the Scott Act unaffected by the clause quoted.

The question of compensation to liquor makers and sellers, for loss of business caused by the operation of prohibitory law, is ably discussed in a pamphlet just published in this city by Mr. Wm. Burgess, and entitled "*The Liquor Traffic and Compensation; a Chapter of the Prohibition Controversy.*" The pamphlet is full of interest and convincingly repudiates the claims that are made on behalf of the liquor traffic by interested parties. Mr. Burgess sets out by fairly and clearly stating the position assumed by the claimants, and then proceeds to discuss the general question of the duty and responsibility of the State in relation to trade interests and developments. He disposes of the general question of vested rights, and goes on to discuss the special cases of the different departments of the liquor business. Proceeding, he takes up and carefully analyses the different arguments that have been used by his opponents, plainly showing their fallacious character. The proposal is next discussed from the standpoint of expediency, and the argument closes with an investigation of the different cases that might be looked upon as precedents to the one at present under consideration. Not the least valuable part of the work is an appendix of carefully selected opinions from eminent authorities bearing upon the subject. We cordially commend the study of this thoughtful little treatise to those who are interested in this now live phase of the prohibition discussion.

The *Week* comes out in favor of Mr. Beaty's Bill, which aims at the enactment of prohibition in reference to distilled liquors only. We are in sympathy with any movement in the direction of total prohibition, we entirely agree with our cotemporary's statement that, "whiskey, such whiskey, at all events, as our people commonly drink, may be said without great violence of language to be poison; it may be said, at all events, to come fairly within the cognizance of sanitary police."

We are in favor of legislation for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of this bad whiskey, but we must object to the assumption that while ardent spirits are bad, beer and light wines are good. We have frequently quoted unassailable authorities to show the inaccuracy of the statement that there is little drunkenness in wine-growing countries, and we are surprised at the unsupported reiteration of the assertion. This time the *Week* refers to Spain as a place where the sight of a drunken man is rare, but does not call attention to the fact, that this is in cases where wine drinking is rare. Spain has been unhappily noted for crimes of violence, and these are generally the result of intoxication. In this connection it is worth while to note the following remarkable statement from *Cities and Wilds of Andalusia*, by Hon. R. Dundas Murray:—

"Sober and temperate himself, the peasant rarely suffers the wine-cup to touch his lips. He sees it to be the source of nearly all the brutal crimes committed in his country, THE GREATEST PROPORTION OF WHICH SPRING FROM THE WINE-SHOPS, among whose frequenters the *navaja* (knife) is constantly produced to settle disputes, and horrible murders in this way committed."