

# THE CANADA CITIZEN AND TEMPERANCE HERALD.

Freedom for the Right means Suppression of the Wrong.

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1884.

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## 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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TORONTO, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 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.

We desire to call attention to a letter on another page from Mr. Burgess on the subject of a Temperance Jubilee. The matter is well worthy the attention of temperance workers.

Three more Scott Act votings have been gazetted. A vote will be taken on a repeal petition in York County N. B. on October 30th, and the same day is fixed for the polling in Bruce and Prince Edward Counties Ont.

Mr. W. G. Fee, whose efficient work as organizing agent proved so grandly successful in Halton, is now assisting in perfecting the arrangements for the Simcoe campaign. He gives an encouraging report of the enthusiasm and determination of the workers in that county.

Rev. D. L. Brethour called at this office on Thursday, on his way home from the East, where he has been helping to "Storm the Fort" in Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry. He speaks very hopefully of the prospects in these counties in spite of most determined anti-efforts. Bro Brethour brought a big list of subscribers for the Canada Citizen.

The present policy of the Antis is to delay and hamper the temperance workers as much as possible. They cannot cope with them in a fair fight, so are striving by writs, injunctions, etc., applied for on most flimsy pretences, to delay the presenting of petitions and the fixing of voting days. These petty machinations will utterly fail, and even when they succeed in so keeping back our work as to throw over the voting too late to take effect on May 1st, 1885, they will be giving us more time to perfect our organization, and so make our majorities greater and their rout more complete.

The total result of the Halton voting was as follows:—

Votes polled in favor of repeal.....1767  
Votes polled against repeal.....1947

Majority in favor of the Scott Act..... 180

The polling in the same county on April 19th, 1881 showed:—

Votes polled for the Scott Act.....1483  
Votes polled against the Scott Act.....1402

Majority in favor of the Scott Act..... 81

From this it will be seen that there has been a remarkable growth of sentiment favorable to the Act in the only Ontario County where it has been in operation. The temperance men have vastly augmented their total vote and more than doubled their former majority.

The growing popularity of the Scott Act is to be attributed partly to the general increase of temperance sentiment, specially of that enlightened temperance sentiment that recognizes the folly and wrongfulness of licensing an evil, partly to a better knowledge of the Act and a consequent appreciation of the soundness of its principles and the excellence of its provisions; but it is to an even greater extent due to the success that has attended the working of the Act. Canadians are an eminently practical people, and the satisfactory experience and emphatic verdict of counties like Halton will go further towards producing conviction than would a volume of theories and arguments. In this connection it is well worthy of note that so far every repeal agitation has been a failure, and that since the Scott Act was declared constitutional by the British Privy Council it has not been defeated in a single contest.

Nearly all the Anti-Scott men profess to be thorough-going prohibitionists, and there is being industriously advocated a proposal that our Dominion Government should be asked to have a vote of the people taken at the next general election on the question of prohibition. We wish to warn our friends that this is simply a stratagem to secure delay. We asked for a plebiscite seven years ago, and we were refused. Anti-temperance men were opposed to this proposal then. The Scott Act was given us as a means of polling the people on the question of prohibition. After long and vexatious legal delays we are now in a position to use the Scott Act for the purpose indicated. We are doing this with grand success. Our plebiscite will shortly almost be completed and we shall be able to lay before our Dominion parliament a practical demand for total prohibition in the shape of the record of an overwhelming vote of our electorate. We must not be asked to do this over again. Our legislators have promised us prohibition, upon certain conditions.