

"THE HOTEL WORLD"

THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC'S MONTHLY ORGAN.

A Comical Journalistic Enterprise—An Anonymous Champion of the Rum Business
—Billinggate Denunciation of Temperance Men and Ministers—Rehashing of State and Long-Ago Exploded Fallacies.

We have received the first number of *The Hotel World*, hailing from "The Hotel World Office," Brantford, but a careful examination of the neat little sheet fails to give us any idea as to who the anonymous publishers may be, of the price they have set upon their production, how often it is to be issued, or any of the other facts concerning the paper, which journalists are usually anxious to impress upon their expected constituency. There are eight small pages in the number before us, which is marked No. 1, Vol. I, January 1888. We have run over them and find a large proportion of space devoted to the abuse of *This CANADA CITIZEN* and its Editor, with which would-be whisky journals usually endeavor to please that class of the community to whose tastes they wish to cater. The paltry attempts to be funny at our expense are so childish and lame, as to be really amusing in a line not purposed by their perpetrators, and on the whole we hardly know whether it will be in order to congratulate the liquor traffic on its organ or to congratulate the organ on the interests it really represents.

One of the hugo stupidities of *The Hotel World* is that it absolutely fails to understand that a hotel is not necessarily a gin-mill, and that the business of providing comfortable food and lodging is really an honorable and respectable occupation and so regarded by intelligent and sensible temperance workers. The full title on the front page is "*The Hotel World and Travellers' Guide*," and in the initial article the editor says—

"That there is at present great need for a live and able paper in the interest of the trade, few we think will deny. Surely it is time some effort was made to vindicate the character and reputation of those engaged in the business. This end we shall earnestly endeavor to accomplish, and we recognize how difficult the task must become without the encouragement and assistance of friends, and hope we may not be tempted to lay down the pen in the effort, for that aid we have reason to expect."

In this little paragraph the cat gets cut of the bag, and the professed "Travellers' Guide" is seen to be an attempt of the whisky business to "vindicate the character" of those engaged in it, coupled with the unfortunate admission that the task is very "difficult."

We are pleased to have somebody come out openly on behalf of whisky, even though that somebody be afraid to let the public know who he is. Canadians are a fair-play-loving people and desirous of hearing both sides of every question. In the interests therefore of full and fair discussion we are a little regretful that the new candidate for liquor-traffic support is so far below its short-lived predecessors in literary ability, editorial management and everything that would be likely to make it successful, the mechanical work of the paper alone excepted.

Our readers would hardly thank us for taking much time in replying to the many silly things which have been gathered into *The Hotel World's* columns. We are at a loss to know what to anticipate in its second issue—if the second issue should ever see the light. Most of the allusions of the whisky side of the prohibition argument have been collected in the first number, and the editors seem to have nothing at their disposal except those sillinesses.

Apologizing to our many friends for trespassing so far upon their patience, we reproduce below the leading article of this new undertaking, promising however for the sake of our own reputation that it is a true copy of the original, verbatim et literatim.

"PROSTHETRIO."

"To every careful observer it must be clearly demonstrated that the Scott Act does not prohibit, but on the contrary it increases the evil of drunkenness, and makes people hypocrites. Stringent and atrocious as its restrictions are, it is clearly a fraud and humbug. While all our prohibition papers assume as a fact that the manufacture, sale and use of stimulating beverages is a crime, and must be prohibited by Statutory law, the government of this country legalizes the traffic. So do all governments everywhere. What is legalized by all the civilized governments cannot, surely, be a very great crime. It cannot be a crime to drink wine, or else Christ would be a criminal, as he did both, and even introduced the Jewish rite of using wine at all good citizens."

religious ceremonies into the Holy Communion. Some prohibitionists may ask us to prove that Christ made and used intoxicating wine for drink purposes. That we cannot do, nor do we think anyone can prove it wasn't. If Christ be the Son of God, he must have been possessed of omniscience, and consequently must have known all the terrible results of the use of wine both before and after his sojourn on earth, and if, with that knowledge of the results of the use of that wine, he made and used it, it must be that he only considered it wrong to use when carried to excess, and any interference with the moderate use by governmental prohibition of the manufacture of such is an implication that the government which does it is either better or worse than Christ.

"Therefore, we say prohibitionists must prove that the wine Christ made was not intoxicating before their argument amounts to anything. When this is proven the controversy, so far as we are concerned, will be closed. Mahomet prohibited the use of wine by his followers under very heavy penalties. The result was a refuge in other and worse stimulants.

"Prohibition is no new thing. It has been tried in this country and the States for a long time, and so far has been a failure everywhere. Some 70 counties of or municipalities in Canada have tried it, but in spite of the severest penalties the result has always been the same, to wit, an increase of the use of alcoholic drinks. The catalogues and extent of crime has increased. Bad men have engaged in the illegal but profitable traffic, whilst honorable men have been driven out. Rot-gut is sold in all the miserable hotels, porcine eggs, walking sticks, and other such contrivances.

"Whilst doing no good, prohibitionists are injuring the cause they pretend to serve. People have been driven to the whisky bottle in the closet, or for 'medicine' to the drug store. They have indeed proved themselves the body-guard of King Alcohol. Instead of elevating the character of our hotels they have labored night and day to drive every respectable man out of the business. Landlords of respectable houses have been hounded and persecuted as if they were so many criminals, and their property confiscated, and out of such persecutions some miserable reprobates are making their bread.

"To Christians and not Turks. Be reasonable men and not fanatics who run wild on a one-sided idea. Don't make this beautiful country a slave pen, and its people miserable subjects, hypocrites, guarded and led on by a host of sanctimonious preachers and agitators, who imagine themselves God's Saints on earth, but who are, in fact, a set of vipers and snakes.

"It is the same class who rob the pale-faced, ill-clad, sewing girl and widow of their fair proportion of the wealth they create, the same set that burned the witches, tormented and tortured the Quakers, betrayed and exterminated the Indians. It is the same self-glorying hypocrites that take from \$25 to \$300 a night to preach and lecture in the cause of humanity. They are the ones whom Christ 1800 years ago denounced as whitened sepulchres, and who in return called him a wine bibber.

"These temperance pretensions are mere shams; it is but lust after notoriety and power, and an eye to the almighty dollar, out of 'temperance,' whose only business from the moment they mount the rostrum is to vilify and calumniate their betters."

THE FIERY TRAIL.**ARSON AND DYNAMITE AGAIN.**

ON Tuesday morning, shortly after five o'clock, the office of the *Renfrew Mercury*, published at Renfrew, in Renfrew county, was entirely destroyed by fire.

Most of our friends are familiar to the name of W. E. Smallfield, the energetic Scott Act secretary of Renfrew county, who has done so much for the enforcement of law in that district. He was one of the editors and proprietors of the journal against which whisky spirts has now done its worst. All the evidence that has so far been collected goes to show that the fire was of incendiary origin.

Mr Smallfield has lately been publishing another paper, an ably-conducted little monthly called the *County Temperance Advocate*. He was also a special constable sworn in to assist in enforcing the law, and he has been for some time the special target of whisky traffic malice. It will be remembered that some time ago he was brutally assaulted, and now, he has been made to pay another severe penalty for his adherence to the cause which he believed to be right.

The building in which the *Renfrew Mercury* and *Temperance Advocate* were printed was totally destroyed with all that it contained. The loss on plant is about \$3,000, of which only \$750 is covered by insurance.

Readers of our paper are familiar with the name of Mr. I. Evans, license inspector for East Kent, who has been making the law in his district a terror to evil-doers. He too has suffered from the heartless brutality of the liquor fiends. About one o'clock on Tuesday morning last his house was dynamited. Fortunately, some evidence is obtained which may lead to the detection of the villains who did the dastardly deed. Mr. Evans will have the sympathy of

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TORONTO, FRIDAY, JANUARY 27th, 1888.

THE SERPENT'S TRAIL.

From every part of the wide area covered by Christian civilization, come to our ears the wails and groans of countless sufferers, crushed under the deadly Juggernaut car of the demon-traffic in intoxicating drink. We respectfully ask our readers to carefully peruse the columns of this paper headed with the words which constitute the caption of this article. Did ever heathendom perpetrate, upon its dull devotes, such atrocities as those with which the rum-power daily outrages society? The Christmas season is supposed to bring with it peace and joy, but in nearly every part of Christendom it now means a wider immorality, deeper degradation, an additional weight of misery to those who are already cursed by the evils that flow from legalized iniquity.

What must the loving and merciful Father think of those professed followers who sustain, by their political influence, the awful system that produces such fearful fruits, and makes the festive commemorative of His most marvellous manifestation of love, a time of the most disgraceful riot and sin?

The trail of the serpent! How it covers all our land! How many homes it curses! How many lives it blights! This awful demon-monster of incorporate malvolence,—the accursed and cursing traffic in strong drink—how strange that we never realize its full enormity! How strange that in the midst of the desolation wrought by its cruel power, we fail to recognize its actual character!

The professed Christians of this Christian community—the members of the Church of God—those who revere the name of Christ and profess to be followers of the meek and lowly Jesus—they are responsible for this ruin and damnation of the souls and bodies of their fellow-men

Without the consent of the members of the Christian Church the liquor traffic could not exist a single day. If God's people unitedly, earnestly, determinedly said, "This evil shall be abolished," it would die to-morrow, and no government would dare to foster or protect it.

God help us all to strive to clear our skirts from the responsibility of the bloodshed of which we, as a community, to-day are guilty

A COMMENDABLE PROPOSAL.

EVERY true philanthropist, every one actuated by any sense of malice and desire for fair play, will be pleased that the Ontario Government proposes during its present session to introduce legislation looking towards prohibition of the excessive toll which is now exacted of children and young girls in retail stores, and that it is proposed to give the sanction and encouragement of our Local Legislature to the wise proposal for shorter hours for those who ought not to be expected to undergo the unnatural strain to which they have been heretofore subjected.

DYNAMITE AND ARSON.

THE liquor traffic has again been wreaking its diabolical vengeance upon some of the earnest men, who, in the interests of humanity have been working for its suppression. From Renfrew and Chatham comes information of arson and dynamiting perpetrated in the interests of the illicit rum-business, evidently with the object of terrorizing those who are endeavoring to have the law enforced.

Only a few days have gone by since the Methodist church at Kemptville was destroyed by fire. Not many weeks have elapsed since malicious incendiaries and other cowardly violence was used against some of our best friends and most ardent workers. It would seem as if in some parts of this Province a man's favor for the carrying out of law, and effort to conscientiously work out his convictions, are sufficient reasons why his property should be destroyed and his life endangered.

One of the worst features in connection with these outrages is that so few of the villains who take part in them are brought to justice. There is no use in endeavoring to evade the fact that this is largely because the public mind is not fully possessed of a correct view of the character of the abominable liquor-traffic, and the public conscience is not quickened as it ought to be in relation to this awful evil.

Governments reflect public sentiment, and the government needs stirring up as well as the community that it represents. If one-tenth of the outrages reported as the work of the Anti-party, were perpetrated by Englishmen against Frenchmen, or by Frenchmen against Englishmen, the result would be little short of civil war. Governments would at once interfere, and there would be all the exercise of authority necessary to suppress the villainy.

Can it be that the great difficulty is that the temperance electorate is not yet sufficiently organized, that the rum-power is more dreaded by the politicians than is the power opposed to the rum-traffic? Whatever may be the cause the facts remain: scoundrelism of every kind, arson, dynamiting, maiming of cattle, assaulting of temperance-men, all this goes on and there is no outcry, the public press has little to say by way of indignant comment, and the civil power fails to ferret out and punish the offenders. Why?

THE SIMCOE POLICE MAGISTRATE.

It was announced about a week ago that the Ontario Government had revoked the commission of Mr. J. T. Partridge, Police Magistrate of the county of Simcoe, on the ground that he had been too energetic in his efforts to secure the prosecution of parties charged with violation of the Scott Act.

We understand that the finding of the commission, was that Mr. Partridge's zeal in securing Scott Act convictions, and his evident desire to have such convictions made, disqualified him from acting as an impartial judge in such cases. We have not a full report of the evidence submitted to the investigating committee. What has been published would go to show that Mr. Partridge had paid detectives, and otherwise endeavored to secure prosecutions and convictions, and he was no doubt a strong believer in the Scott Act, had worked hard to secure its enactment, and was very desirous of seeing it thoroughly enforced. It is worth while, however, considering whether or not such zeal in the interests of the law really disqualifies a man from acting judicially, when investigating cases of violation of that law.

In the evidence so far made public, there is not a hint to the effect that any conviction had ever been improperly made, that anyone had been punished through Mr. Partridge's efforts, who did not deserve to be their duty.

punished, or that there was in any case a miscarriage of justice.

Police Magistrates have been appointed in Scott Act counties to secure the better enforcement of law. Magistrates are usually appointed for a similar purpose. If the magistrate appointed to see law fairly carried out, knows or suspects persistent, determined violation of the law he is sworn to support, is it not his duty to do what he can to have the illegal course of conduct stopped? If Mr. Partridge has done more than this, if he has been in any sense a party to inducing men, through detectives or otherwise, to violate the law, then the punishment meted out to him was deserved. But, if his only offence was co-operating with officers of the law to have offenders punished, then, we are at a loss to understand how he could be rightly dismissed by a government that desired to see the law enforced.

The full evidence ought to be published, so that the public will be in a position to understand what at present seems a strange action, on the part of a government which is believed to be thoroughly in sympathy with law enforcement, and willing to stand by men who are willing to do their duty.

IS IT MURDER?

Elsewhere is reported, in this paper the recent fatal result of drunkenness in the town of Woodstock, where the Scott Act is in operation, where no liquor should be sold, where drunkenness is the result of violation of the law. There is a particular view of this case to which we would ask the careful attention of our readers.

Some time ago, in the course of a trial in this city, the learned judge who was presiding, laid down the following as a rule to be followed by a jury in deciding the question of guilt in a case in which the crime of murder was charged. If a man wilfully violates the law of the land and in his illegal act causes the death of another, he is, in the eye of the law, a murderer. For example:—should a burglar in the act of housebreaking accidentally cause the death, either through fright, or in any other way, of an inmate of the house, the burglar would be a murderer and so considered and treated by the law.

If this doctrine is sound, then somebody in Woodstock is a murderer. Of course there is a sense in which any man who sells intoxicating liquor to another should be held in some measure responsible for the evils that may result from the sale and the drinking of the liquor. We are not, however, speaking now of law-permitted crime in which an individual may be merely guilty but legally unpunishable. The man who sold, in defiance of the Scott Act, the liquor that caused the drunkenness which led to the fatal accident, was not merely morally, but technically, according to the principle above explained, a murderer, in the eyes of the law as well as before God and man.

If this is the case, if actual murder has been committed, through the determination of any person or persons to defy the law, should not the proper authorities at once put into motion the machinery of the law for the arrest and punishment of the murderer?

Further, if any government officers are evading the intent of the law and permitting, by a persistent flinging system (which really means high license) the crime that has actually been murder, as already explained, then, does not the charge of murder lie also against such derelict officers of the law?

HALTON.

It is announced in the Empire that Saturday's *Gazette* will contain notice of polling on the Scott Act in Halton, which will be about the first day of March. Our friends in the little banner county have not got any spare time but no doubt they will use all they have to good advantage, and the Scott Act will be sustained. We have full confidence in the Christian men and women of Halton. They will do